



TYLER POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER: 01.100

	MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES	
	EFFECTIVE DATE: 08-15-1990	
	REVISED DATE: 07-21-2016	
CALEA STANDARDS: 1.1.1; 1.1.2; 1.2.1; 45.2.4		

01.101 PHILOSOPHY

- A. Mission - ***To improve the quality of life by providing professional police service through a community partnership***
- B. Values of the Tyler Police Department are as follows:
 - 1. Importance of people as individuals and as a vital part of the Department.
 - 2. Superior quality service.
 - 3. Closeness to the community.
 - 4. Responsiveness to the Citizens needs.
- C. The General Orders of the Tyler Police Department are designed to assist all employees in providing professional police service to the community. To enhance the ability of the Department to provide the highest quality public service, cooperate with other criminal justice agencies, and work closely with the community, other City Departments, and the media, it is important that all employees understand and comply with the content of these orders.

01.102 REVERENCE FOR THE LAW - [CALEA Standard: 1.1.1]

- A. The primary duty of a police officer is to uphold and enforce the law. The application and enforcement of the law must be accomplished in the spirit set forth by the framers of the Constitution. The rights of each citizen are equal with those of the state, which might accuse the citizen. The Constitution provides for fundamental enforcement of the law with fairness and equity.
- B. The laws of the State of Texas allow for their application to be made fairly, and within the spirit of the law, rather than blind adherence to the strict construction of a statute. Officers shall direct their efforts to the impartial application of the spirit of the law, for the purpose set forth in the statutes.

1. Prior to accepting the status of a peace officer, a person must take an oath of office to enforce the law and uphold the Constitution of the United States and Constitution of the State of Texas.
2. In the application of the law, officers shall exercise mature judgement and discretion within the limits of statutory authority and Department policy.
3. Enforcement action should not be taken in grudging adherence to the rights of the accused, but in the spirit of ensuring that the rights of accused persons are protected by the police.
4. In the enforcement of criminal statutes, any conduct that would violate the law must be avoided. The commission of any crime cannot be justified to effect the expedient enforcement of the law.
5. Officers should display a reverence for the legal rights of all citizens and a reverence for the law itself.

01.103 PUBLIC APPROVAL OF POLICE - [CALEA Standard: 45.2.4]

- A. The ability of the police to effectively perform their duties relies upon the approval of the public. The ability of the police to secure and maintain public respect is dependent upon the actions, and behavior of individual officers and the entire police organization.
- B. The police must secure the cooperation of the public to voluntarily observe the law in order to secure and maintain the respect and approval of the public. The degree of public cooperation that can be secured voluntarily diminishes proportionately with the improper use of force or less than adequate delivery of police service.
- C. To ensure that Department policy reflects the needs of the community, the Department will solicit comments and concerns from various community based groups. The Tyler Police Department is committed to maintaining a positive relationship with the community and to correcting any possible adverse actions, practices and attitudes that may contribute to community tensions and grievances. Input may include, but not be limited to, feedback from neighborhood councils, citizens' complaints, annual citizen survey reports, request for service reports, and information obtained through the Community Relations functions.

01.104 IMPARTIAL ENFORCEMENT - [CALEA Standard: 1.2.1; CCP: 2.13]

- A. The police preserve public favor by constantly demonstrating impartial service to the law without regard to the perception as to whether or not the law is just or unjust. Impartiality is gained by offering individual service to all members of society regardless of race or social standing, the exercise of courtesy, and by readily offering individual sacrifice in protecting and preserving life. The scope and limits of law enforcement authority, as it pertains to the enforcement of laws, statutes and ordinances, will be within the limits established in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 2, Article 2.13.
- B. Physical force will be used only to the extent necessary to secure observance of the law, or to restore order when the exercise of persuasion, advice, and warning is found to be insufficient to achieve police objectives.
- C. The police should direct their efforts toward their function, and not usurp the powers of the judiciary by avenging individuals or the State, judging guilt, or punishing the guilty. The test of police effectiveness is the absence of crime and the preservation of public order, not the

evidence of police action in dealing with crime and disorder.

01.105 COOPERATION

- A. Specialization within the Department is necessary to best serve the citizens of Tyler. Employees working within the general patrol function and those in specialized areas shall work closely together to meet Department Goals. This will ensure a unity of effort, resources and the effective service to the community.
- B. As crime does not have jurisdictional boundaries, it is incumbent on the employees of the Department to cooperate with other city, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. It is the policy of the Tyler Police Department to cooperate with other law enforcement agencies, where possible.
 - 1. The Chief of Police, Chief's staff, and other Department members will maintain liaison with other agencies through Police organizations and informal interaction.
 - 2. The Department will also participate in cooperative programs when possible; i.e., joint task force, criminal justice information networks, etc.
- C. The police alone cannot successfully resolve the problems of crime. In order to serve the public, the criminal justice system relies upon the cooperation of the police with prosecutors, courts, and correctional officers to ensure the development of a safer community.
 - 1. To facilitate this cooperation, the Department will establish a close working relationship with professional organizations directly involved with the planning of the judicial system's response to crime in the community. This will allow alternatives to criminal prosecution by assignment to such social service agencies. It is in the interest of the Tyler Police Department to cooperate with these agencies to facilitate the development of a safer community.
 - 2. Department representatives, Division Commanders or their designees, will take an active part in these organizations by attending meetings, assimilating information, and then disseminating that information to appropriate personnel within the Department.

01.106 ETHICS - [CALEA Standard: 1.1.2]

- A. Police work is one of the most personal of all services. Police Officers and the people they serve must be as close as possible to generate the cooperation necessary for the involvement of the whole community in its protection. The assignment of personnel should ensure that the same officers, and the same citizens have an opportunity to continually work together for the protection of a specific area. Strength through interaction on common problems can be enhanced by officers and the community becoming comfortable with one another.
- B. Earning the respect of the public for the Department is aided by optimum openness of the Department in its operations. All employees must be open, honest, and trustworthy at all times. Dealing with the public honestly and openly should develop respect in the community for the police and make it possible for citizens to come to them with problems and information. Where there is a lack of honesty and openness, communication between the police and the public may become strained or non-existent, and seriously impact the ability of the Department to fulfill its mission.

- C. All department personnel will receive refresher training on the Code of Ethics in a roll-call training session or other similar format at least once every two years. The training will be documented in the employee's training file.

01.107 CODE OF ETHICS - [CALEA Standard: 1.1.2]

Officers of the Tyler Police Department will conduct themselves in a manner which is consistent with the policies and philosophies of the Tyler Police Department. During the performance of their duties they will strive to project a professional image and abide by the following 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 all persons 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 of 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 decision. With no compromise for crime and 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."

Approved: 07-21-2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jimmy Toler', is written over a horizontal line.

Jimmy Toler
Chief of Police