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5-100 Code of Conduct

5-101 CODE OF CONDUCT DEFINED

The code of conduct of the Minneapolis Police Department is promulgated by the Chief of Police by authority of the City Charter, Chapter 6, Section 1, as amended. This code is established to promote efficiency, discipline, and good public relations in setting forth policy governing the conduct of all Department employees.

The conduct of police officers is governed by the MPD Policy and Procedure Manual and applicable State and Federal law. All employees of the Minneapolis Police Department are required to maintain a working knowledge of and to obey the code of conduct, civil service rules, Departmental rules, policies, procedures and orders, ordinances of the City of Minneapolis, the laws of the State of Minnesota and the United States. The failure of an MPD employee to comply with the standards of conduct set forth in the Manual and in law will subject the employee to discipline and/or legal action. All disciplinary actions taken will be in accordance with Civil Service rules and provisions. (10/20/88) (12/01/08)

5-101.01 TRUTHFULNESS (01/26/05) (11/15/13)

The integrity of police service is based on truthfulness. Officers shall not willfully or knowingly make an untruthful statement, verbally or written, or knowingly omit pertinent information pertaining to his/her official duty as a Minneapolis Police Officer.

MPD employees shall not willfully or knowingly make an untruthful statement or knowingly omit pertinent information in the presence of any supervisor, intended for the information of any supervisor, or before any court or hearing. Officers shall not make any false statements to justify a criminal or traffic charge or seek to unlawfully influence the outcome of any investigation. (12/14/07)

These requirements apply to any report, whether verbal or written, concerning official MPD business including, but not limited to, written reports, transmissions to MECC and officers via radio, telephone, pager, e-mail or MDC.

MPD employees are obligated under this policy to respond fully and truthfully to questions about any action taken that relates to the employee's employment or position regardless of whether such information is requested during a formal investigation or during the daily course of business. (12/14/07)

5-101.02 VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT (03/13/07) (11/15/13)

Any member of the Department who violates the code of conduct is subject to discipline. Discipline may range from a written reprimand to termination. Discipline shall be imposed following a sustained violation. Refer to Civil Service Rule 11.03 regarding discipline. (11/16/94) (03/08/95) (03/13/07) (11/15/13)

The Chief of Police may relieve a departmental employee with pay pending an investigation of an alleged violation of criminal law, or a violation of the code of conduct. Administrative leave is not discipline. (03/08/95) (03/13/07)

Probationary employees may be dismissed from service for failing to meet minimum performance standards or probationary training standards for violations of the code of conduct or for any other legal reason. There is no right of appeal for probationary employees unless the probationary employee is a veteran as provided by Civil Service Rules 11.06 and 11.07. (03/13/07)

http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/policy/mpdpolicy_5-100 5-100

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Employees who no longer meet minimum job qualifications or who are no longer able to perform the essential functions of their job, for a period of 90 days or more due to a criminal conviction, court ordered restriction, driver's license restriction, POST license restriction or other adverse legal action due to criminal behavior are subject to termination from employment. (03/13/07)

5-102 CODE OF ETHICS (08/01/91)

(A-D)

All sworn and civilian members of the department shall conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner at all times and not engage in any on or off-duty conduct that would tarnish or offend the ethical standards of the department. Employees shall abide by the City's Ethics in Government Policy, Chapter 15. (05/23/07)

5-102.01 MINNESOTA LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS (08/01/91)

(A-D)

MINNESOTA LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS:

"As a Minnesota 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 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 by personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the 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 of 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."

5-103 USE OF DISCRETION

(A-D)

The police profession is one that requires officers to use considerable judgment and discretion in the performance of their daily duties. Officers have a large body of knowledge from Department policies and procedures, training, their own professional police experience and the experiences of their fellow officers to guide them in exercising proper judgment and discretion in situations not specifically addressed by Department rules and regulations. In addition, officers must always adhere to the following principles in the course of their employment with the Minneapolis Police Department:

- **POLICE ACTION - LEGALLY JUSTIFIED:** Officers must act within the limits of their authority as defined by law and judicial interpretation, thereby ensuring that the constitutional rights of individuals and the public are protected. All investigative detentions, pedestrian and vehicle

stops, arrests, searches and seizures of property by officers will be based on a standard of reasonable suspicion or probable cause in accordance with the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and statutory authority. Officers must be able to articulate specific facts, circumstances and conclusions that support reasonable suspicion or probable cause.
(11/17/15)

- **EQUALITY OF ENFORCEMENT:** Officers shall provide fair and impartial law enforcement to all citizens.
- **LOYALTY:** Officers shall be faithful to their oath of office, strive to uphold the principles of professional police service, and advance the mission of the Department.

5-104 IMPARTIAL POLICING (06/27/01) (11/17/15)

(A-D)

- A. The MPD is committed to unbiased policing and to reinforcing procedures that ensure that police service and law enforcement is provided in a fair and equitable manner to all.
- B. No person shall be singled out or treated differently as a consequence of his/her race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or religion.
- C. Except as provided below, officers shall not consider race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or religion in establishing either reasonable suspicion or probable cause:

Officers may take into account the reported race, ethnicity, gender or national origin of a specific suspect or suspects on credible, reliable, recent, locally-based information that links specific suspected unlawful or suspicious activity to a particular individual or group of individuals of a particular race, ethnicity, gender or nationality. This information may be used in the same way officers use specific information regarding age, height, weight, etc. about specific suspects. (12/24/01)

5-104.01 PROFESSIONAL POLICING (12/24/01) (12/01/08)

Officers shall use the following practices when contacting any citizen, regardless of the reason for the contact: (07/24/15)

- Be courteous, respectful, polite and professional.
- Introduce or identify themselves to the citizen and explain the reason for the contact as soon as practical, unless providing this information will compromise the safety of officers or other persons.
- Ensure that the length of any detention is no longer than necessary to take appropriate action for the known or suspected offense. (07/24/15)
- Attempt to answer any relevant questions that the citizen may have regarding the citizen/officer contact, including relevant referrals to other city or county agencies when appropriate.
- Provide name and badge number when requested, preferably in writing or on a business card.
- Explain and/or apologize if you determine that the reasonable suspicion was unfounded (e.g. after an investigatory stop).
- If asked, provide the procedures for filing a complaint about police services or conduct.

5-105 PROFESSIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT (01/05/16)

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A. General

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