



220.0 RESPECT FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS (Revised 9/95)

No person has a Constitutional right to violate the law; neither may any person be deprived of his Constitutional rights merely because he is suspected of having committed a crime or has committed a crime. The task of determining the constitutionality of a statute lies with a court of proper jurisdiction, not with an officer who seeks to properly enforce the law as it exists. Therefore, an officer may enforce any federal, State, or local statute, which is valid on its face without fear of abrogating the Constitutional rights of the person violating that statute. An officer who lawfully acts within the scope of his authority does not deprive persons of their civil liberties. He may within the scope of his authority make reasonable inquiries, conduct investigations, and arrest on probable cause.

However, when an officer exceeds his authority by unreasonable conduct, he violates the sanctity of the law, which he is sworn to uphold.