Police Operations Manual

OBJECTIVES

105.0 MISSION STATEMENT OF THE OKLAHOMA CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT (Adopted 12/90)

The men and women of the Oklahoma City Police Department are committed to enhance the quality of life and lessen the criminal fears of all citizens.

Utilizing the authority and safeguards of the Constitution of the United States and the freedoms cited in the Bill of Rights, the laws and statutes of the State of Oklahoma and the Charter and Ordinances of the City of Oklahoma City, we, the members of the Oklahoma City Police Department, will work cooperatively with all segments of the general public and government to provide a safe environment and preserve the peace.

This partnership is drawn on the premise that our product be one of service to all citizens with special focus toward solving real and perceived problems within the community. Our remedies and resources shall be from all levels of government, working in concert, to accomplish our desired goals. Thus, as a Department of, and on behalf of, the City of Oklahoma City, we obligate ourselves toward becoming a catalyst for positive interaction between all services and functions of the City.

110.0 PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

A society free from crime and disorder remains an unachieved ideal; nevertheless, consistent with the values of a free society, it is the primary objective of the Oklahoma City Police Department to as closely as possible approach that ideal. In so doing, the Department's role is to enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner, recognizing both the statutory and judicial limitations of police authority and the Constitutional rights of all persons. It is not the role of the Department to legislate, to render legal judgments, or to punish.

115.0 POLICE AUTHORITY (Revised 10/04)

According to Oklahoma State Statutes, police officers in the State of Oklahoma "...shall have the power to arrest all offenders against the laws of the State or of the City, by day or by night, in the same manner as the Marshal, and keep them in the City prison or other place to prevent their escape until a trial can be held before the proper office".

Oklahoma City Ordinances established the Police Department for the purpose of performing various public safety functions of the City. The City Ordinances state that the Police Department shall have and exercise the powers and duties of preventing and detecting crime, preserving the peace, protecting the citizens and others in their persons and property and maintaining public order.

City Ordinances further define the "General Power of the Police Department" by stating that police officers shall have the power to arrest all offenders against the laws of the State or the City by day or by night. Offenders will be placed in the County Jail or other place to prevent their escape until a trial can be had before a proper officer, or until a recognizance with sufficient surety is duly entered into by the prisoner in custody as provided by law.

115.10 AUTHORITY OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE (Revised 10/04)

According to Oklahoma State Statutes, cities may create the position of Chief of Police, who shall at all times have power to make or order an arrest with proper process, for any offense against the laws of the State or of the City, and bring the offender for trial before the proper officer of the City, and to arrest without process, in all cases where any such offense shall be committed in his/her presence.

The Municipal Code of the City of Oklahoma City designates the Chief of Police as the chief administrative officer of the Police Department. All members of the Department serve subject to the orders of the Chief of Police.

The Code also empowers the Chief of Police to make rules and regulations, as he/she deems advisable. When approved by the City Council, these rules are binding upon all members of the Police Department.

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