

Chapter 200

POLICE DEPARTMENT

ARTICLE I

General Provisions

Section 200.010. Generally. [CC 1992 § 71.010]

This Chapter consists of the rules and regulations for the operation of a Police Department of this City. To the extent that this Chapter conflicts with the provisions of any other Chapter relating to personnel, this Chapter shall prevail. To the extent that regulations promulgated by the Mayor or by the Chief of Police, under the authority of this Chapter, conflict with the provisions of any other Chapter relating to personnel, then the Chapter or Chapters relating to personnel shall prevail.

Section 200.020. Chief Of Police Appointment — Qualifications.

The Mayor with the approval of a majority of the members of the Board of Aldermen shall appoint a Chief of Police who shall perform all duties required of the Marshal by law and any other Police Officers found by the Board of Aldermen to be necessary for the good government of the City. The Chief of Police shall be twenty-one (21) years of age or older.

Section 200.030. Chief Of Police, Authority. [CC 1992 § 71.020]

The Chief of Police is the Director of the Police Department. He/she shall have immediate and direct control of the Department. He/she shall promulgate and enforce orders, rules and regulations (consistent with this Code and with the rules and regulations) for the efficient operation of the Police Department.

Section 200.040. Chief Of Police, Duties. [CC 1992 § 71.030]

The Chief of Police shall devote his/her entire time to the discharge of his/her official duties, and shall have such duties and such authority as that which is vested in a City Marshall by virtue of the statutes of the State of Missouri.

Section 200.050. Patrolman, Assignments. [CC 1992 § 71.040]

Assignment of a patrolman, if any, is at the discretion of the Chief of Police. For the purpose of this Chapter, all police (including the Chief) are considered patrolmen.

Section 200.060. Patrolman, Duties. [CC 1992 § 71.050]

Each patrolman shall be familiar with every part of the City, observing anything unusual to assist

in the prevention of crimes; examine all doors and windows of commercial and industrial buildings at night and report any that are not properly secured to the owner thereof; report whenever he/she has reasonable grounds to suspect that any building or part thereof is being used in violation of the law or is the resort for persons of known bad character; to be prepared and to give information relative to the nature of the business conducted by the firms; enforce all traffic ordinances in addition to his/her other duties; observe and report all violations of City ordinances and State laws; and be responsible for the care and operation of the vehicle assigned to him/her.

Section 200.070. Size Of Police Force — Powers.

The Police of the City may be appointed in such numbers, for such times and in such manner as may be prescribed by ordinance. They shall have power to serve and execute all warrants, subpoenas, writs or other process and to make arrests in the same manner as the Marshal. They may exercise such powers in areas leased or owned by the municipality outside of the boundaries of such municipality. The Chief of Police and Police Officers shall be conservators of the peace and shall be active and vigilant in the preservation of good order within the City.

Section 200.080. City May Enter Into Agreement.

The Board of Aldermen of the City may by ordinance enter into a contract or agreement with any other political subdivision for the provision of police services by one political subdivision to another on request as provided for in Section 70.815, RSMo. The terms "Chief of Police," "Police," "Police Officer" and "Police Department," as used herein, shall refer to Law Enforcement Officers of the contracting entity.

ARTICLE II
Standard Operating Procedures

Section 200.090. Conduct And Deportment. [CC 1992 § 71.070]

All members of the Department shall be quiet, civil and orderly in their conduct and deportment, and shall at all times be attentive and zealous in the discharge of their duties, controlling their temper and exercising the utmost patience and discretion. They shall answer any questions put to them with all possible correctness and courtesy (not in a short or careless manner), avoiding at all times unnecessary conversation or argument.

Section 200.100. Disturbances. [CC 1992 § 71.080]

Any member of the Department shall go instantly to the scene of any disturbance or breach of peace occurring within his/her vicinity, use his/her best effort to restore peace and quiet, making such arrests as may be necessary, and notify and make necessary reports to the Police Department.

Section 200.110. Truthfulness Of Members. [CC 1992 § 71.090]

All members of the Department are required to speak the truth at all times, and under all circumstances, whether under oath or not. If forbidden by the rules of the Department to divulge information, they will state "no comment."

Section 200.120. Members To Give Name. [CC 1992 § 71.100]

Any member of the Department, when called upon to do so by any person under any circumstances, shall give his/her name in a respectful and courteous manner.

Section 200.130. Cooperation. [CC 1992 § 71.110]

Every member of the Department is expected to discharge his/her duties with coolness and firmness in all cases; and in times of extreme peril all available officers shall act together and assist and protect each other in restoring peace and order. Anyone shirking his/her duty in case of danger or responsibility in an emergency shall be considered unworthy of a place on the Department and may be discharged.

Section 200.140. Members To Use Judgment. [CC 1992 § 71.120]

All members of the Department shall be particularly careful not to interfere officiously or unnecessarily in the private business of any person, but when required to act in this discharge of their duty, they shall do so with energy and decision, and in the proper exercise of the authority they will receive the fullest support of the Department.

Section 200.150. Testimony. [CC 1992 § 71.130]

Officers shall appear in court in any case in which they are witnesses. If duty demands their absence from court, they shall report the matter to the City Prosecutor or Prosecuting Attorney, whichever the case may be, in order that the case may be continued. Officers on the witness stand, in response to questions ask, will state in clear and distinct words, briefly, all they know regarding a matter, without fear or reservation, and without any desire or design to influence the result.

Section 200.160. Members To Be Familiar With Rules, Etc. [CC 1992 § 71.140]

Each member of the Department will be furnished with a copy of any rules, regulations and orders issued by the Chief of Police, which he/she shall keep in his/her possession and which he/she shall be familiar with at all times.

Section 200.170. Uniforms. [CC 1992 § 71.150]

Every member of the Department shall wear the uniform as the Chief of Police may from time to time prescribe. Uniforms will be the property of the City, to be surrendered upon leaving the service of the City. They shall, when on duty, carry such equipment as the Chief of Police may prescribe or adopt and when in uniform keep their badge always in sight. No member of the Department shall ever appear for duty in civilian clothing without special permission of the Chief of Police. All patches and badges bearing the insignia of the City of Center shall be surrendered upon termination of service with the Department.

Section 200.180. Uniforms, When Off Duty. [CC 1992 § 71.160]

No member of the Department shall ever wear his/her uniform or any part of it when off duty, except with the expressed permission of the Chief of Police.

Section 200.190. Uniforms, Care Of Uniforms. [CC 1992 § 71.170]

All members of the Department will be required to be neat in appearance and keep their uniforms and equipment in good condition and in perfect order and repair.

Section 200.200. Restrictions Applying To Suspended Officers. [CC 1992 § 71.180]

No member of the Department shall wear his/her uniform or carry a pistol while under suspension for any cause; and such member shall immediately surrender his/her badge, police identification and other City-owned equipment to the Chief of Police when notified of his/her suspension.

Section 200.210. Duty Hours. [CC 1992 § 71.190]

All of certain hours are required for the performance of duty on ordinary occasion. Members must be prepared at all times to act immediately on notice that their service is required. Members of the Department shall be considered as always on duty for the purpose of discipline. The hours of duty will be regulated by the Chief of Police.

Section 200.220. Police Vehicles. [CC 1992 § 71.200]

Police officers are not to use police vehicles except in the discharge of their official duties. Police vehicles are not available for personal use unless prior permission is granted from the Mayor or Police Commissioner.

Section 200.230. Duty To Preserve Peace. [CC 1992 § 71.210]

Although regular hours of duty shall be assigned to all members of the Department, it shall be the duty of every officer of the Department, at all times, day or night, within the City, to preserve the public peace, protect the rights of persons and property, guard the public health, preserve order at all elections and public assemblies; to prevent and remove, if possible, nuisances on and in all streets, highways, areas, alleys, and other places, and enforce the criminal law of the State of Missouri and the ordinances of the City.

Section 200.240. Use Of Unnecessary Violence Toward Prisoners. [CC 1992 § 71.220]

No officer shall willfully mistreat or use unnecessary violence toward any person, prisoner, or otherwise. He/she shall not strike any prisoner except as a last resort in an effort to overcome resistance or prevent escape.

Section 200.250. Qualification For Police Officers. [CC 1992 § 71.230]

All full- and part-time officers employed by the City shall be 21 years of age. They shall be of good moral character and shall not have been convicted of any felony, or any misdemeanor conviction that involves a crime of violence. They shall be able to write legibly and shall furnish at least three (3) character references. A written exam may be administered to any applicant at the discretion of the Chief of Police, and if no current Chief, then at the discretion of the Board of Aldermen.

Section 200.260. Suspension And Discharge. [CC 1992 § 71.240]

The Chief of Police shall have the power to suspend any member of the Police Department for a period of not more than thirty (30) days for violations of the standards of conduct. The Chief of Police shall likewise have the authority to discharge any officer violating the standards of conduct. The Mayor shall have the authority, with the consent of a majority of the members of the Board of Aldermen, to suspend without pay for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days or discharge the Chief of Police for violating the standards of conduct.

Section 200.270. Oath Of Office. [CC 1992 § 71.250]

The Chief of Police and all officers of the Department shall be required to take an oath of office whereby they promise to faithfully enforce the Constitution of the State of Missouri, the laws of the State of Missouri, and the ordinances of the City of Center, Missouri, and to faithfully comply with the standards of conduct as set forth in this Chapter of the Code.