



DEPARTMENTAL REGULATIONS

CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police

PREFACE

The purpose of these regulations is, in general, to provide a basis for the orderly and disciplined performance of duty. Their publication will promote a surer knowledge of what is expected of personnel generally and of all ranks and assignments specifically. This should result in a greater degree of self assurance in all positions. In relationships between the ranks, it should be our individual aim to build, continuously, that mutual respect and confidence which is so essential to our operations.

At the time of issuance of a regulation, each officer of the department will be required, within 30 days of receipt of the regulation, to acknowledge, in writing (Form CPD 504), that it has been received, read, and understood. In addition, each supervisory officer will be required to acknowledge his personal responsibility for enforcing the regulations. The purpose of this procedure is to assure individual familiarity with all regulations and thereby minimize the possibilities of violations resulting from a lack of knowledge.

In compiling the regulations, every effort will be made to confine them to those phases of official behavior which affect departmental operation and to avoid unwarranted or unnecessary intrusion upon the private life and off-duty actions of members of the department. In the eyes of the public, however, a police officer is never off duty and his every act may be subject to scrutiny, interpretation, and comment. Therefore, the regulations must be based upon departmental welfare and individual desires must occasionally, of necessity, be subjugated to the best interests of the organization as a whole.

We constitute an organization whose very existence is justified solely on the basis of community service. Although Departmental Regulations provide a working pattern, our official activity must not be confined within the limited orbit described by them. Actually, that portion of police service dealing with real criminals is only a small part of our overall responsibility. By far, the greater percentage of our time and energy is expended on noncriminal service functions and in dealing with law-abiding citizens of the community. We should consider it our duty and privilege, not only to protect our citizens from the criminal but also to protect and defend the rights guaranteed under our structure of government. It may be said that matters of civil law are not a basic police responsibility and, within reasonable limits, we should attempt to avoid becoming entangled in them. However, in many situations, justice can best be served only when we assist in such matters. Our broad philosophy must embrace a wholehearted determination to protect and support the doctrine of individual rights while providing for the security of persons and property in the community. In meeting this objective, it is our duty to operate as a service organization.