



Manchester Police Department



UPDATED 5/1/2021

ARTICLE 1 Introduction

Effective Date: May 1, 2020

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The Manchester Police Department Operational Procedures and Regulations Manual is issued for the governing of the Manchester Police Department. It shall constitute the official rules and regulations of the Department, and shall replace and supersede any previously issued manuals or directives.

While this manual cannot cover all situations, it is expected and required that all personnel employed by the Department will know and adhere to all the operational procedures and regulations detailed in this manual and be guided by Maryland Law. Other directives and amendments to the manual may be posted following issuance of this manual, and shall be taken as additions and supplements to this manual when so designated by the Chief of Police.

Employees of the Department shall be familiar with all of the operational procedures and regulations in this manual. In addition, all of the employees of the Department shall be familiar with Local, State, and Federal laws which are enforced by the Department, and which are within the field of operations of the Department. Members and employees of the Department shall not violate any Federal, State, or Local laws and or Ordinances, and nothing in this manual shall be taken as justification for such violation.

Forward

The Manchester Town Mayor, Council, and or the Chief of Police, reserves the right to alter, amend, or repeal any of these Regulations and Operational Procedures, or to make additions thereto as circumstances may require, and, if the occasion demands, to issue verbal or written orders which shall have the same force and effect as these Regulations and Operational Procedures; acting in the accordance of State or Federal Law.



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All rules, regulations and operational procedures previously issued are hereby under review, or revoked and or fluid insofar as they conflict with the rules, regulations and operational procedures herein set forth.

These rules, regulations and operational procedures are intended for the guidance of the members of the Department. These rules, regulations, and operational procedures cannot cover every specific act of commission or omission, nor can they cover every specific situation or problem that may from time to time confront members of the Department. Therefore, a great deal must necessarily be left to the intelligence and discretion of the individual.

The exercise of good judgment and the application of common sense, together with the highest degree of cooperation by those entrusted with law enforcement, is essential to effective police work.

To achieve true success the Department must win and retain the confidence and respect of the public that it serves. This can be accomplished only by constant and earnest endeavor on the part of all members of the Department to perform their duties in an efficient, honest, and businesslike manner, and by exemplary conduct, cultivating in the public mind the realization that the Police Department is a most vital requisite to public wellbeing.

Officers should remember that in the execution of their duties they act not for themselves but for the public. The entire law regulating their function hinges upon this principle. They are required to be governed by impartiality, and to be guided by the law, and should never allow passion, fear, favoritism, or sympathy, to persuade them to act illegally, or to neglect to do their duty. Officers must bear in mind that they are a representative of the law to whose lawful demands all must submit, and such submission can be compelled when necessary. They should use no unnecessary force, nor should they hesitate to use necessary force when circumstances require.



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The development of a well-disciplined and efficient police department that has the confidence and respect of the public can only be accomplished when each member realizes that his/her every action, whether it is a part of his/her official duty, or his/her private life, is closely observed by the public. Acts of misconduct or inefficiency not only reflect on the member as an individual, but on the Department as a body.

A member who has been placed in a supervisory position must gain the respect and confidence of his/her subordinates. This can be accomplished only by setting good examples in both conduct and appearance, by having a thorough understanding of the rules, regulations, and procedures of the Department, and by a willingness to assist, be a team player, leader and instruct subordinates in the proper performance of their duties.

A superior officer who overlooks inefficiency or misconduct on the part of his/her subordinates is guilty of neglect of duty and or a crime, and such action affects the efficiency of the department, and makes it impossible for him/her to gain the respect and confidence essential to his/her position; and will be held accountable.

COMMUNICATION OF POLICY

This policy is effective on the date listed herein. Each employee is responsible for complying with the contents of this policy.