

Cleveland Heights Police Department

Policy Manual

LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS

While I consider the way I choose to conduct my private affairs a personal freedom, I accept the responsibilities for my actions, as well as inactions, while on duty or off duty, when those actions bring disrepute on the public image of my employer, my fellow workers and the law enforcement profession.

I vow to perform all my duties in a lawful, professional and competent manner. I consider the abilities to be courageous in the face of danger and to exercise restraint in the use of my powers and authorities to be the ultimate public trust. I accept that I must consistently strive to achieve excellence in learning the necessary knowledge and skills associated with my duties. I will keep myself physically fit and mentally alert so that I am capable of performing my duties according to the standards of quality expected of my position.

I vow to be fully truthful and honest in my dealings with others. I will obey the laws that I have sworn to enforce and uphold. I will conduct myself and perform my duties and responsibilities in a manner that complies with the standards of my Department and the lawful directions of my supervisors.

I vow to treat others with courtesy at all times. I consider it to be a professional weakness to allow another's behavior to dictate my actions. I will not allow others' actions or failings to be my excuse for not performing my duties in a responsible, professional and expected manner.

I vow to empathize with the problems of people with whom I come into daily contact. However, I will not allow my personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence the discretionary authorities entrusted to me. I will affirmatively seek ways to avoid conflicts and potential conflicts of interest that could compromise my official authority or my employer's public image.

I hold the authority inherent in my position to be an affirmation of the public's trust in me as a public servant. I do not take this trust lightly. As long as I remain in this position, I will dedicate myself to maintaining this trust and upholding all the ideals of my profession.