

# St. Joseph, Missouri Police Department



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SUBJECT: Rules of Conduct		
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## I. Policy

The rules of conduct presented below are meant as a supplement to GO0003 “Member Conduct”. It is not intended to be all encompassing and is an additional list of guidelines that members **shall** follow while engaged in the performance of their duties. Members shall refer to the General Order governing "Member Conduct" for other specifics concerning mandatory standards of member behavior.

### A. Rules of Conduct

1. **Compliance with Department Values and Mission Statement:** Members of the Department will maintain familiarity with, perform their duties, and conduct themselves within the framework of the Department's values and Mission Statement.
2. **Conformance with Laws:** Members will obey the law of the United States of America and any state or local jurisdiction. A conviction for violation of law is prima facie evidence of a violation of this rule.
3. **Truthfulness:** Members will be truthful in matters associated with Department responsibilities.
4. **Police Authority:** Commissioned Members will not abuse the authority conferred upon them or the trust of the community they have sworn to serve. Commissioned members will not take any police action that they know, or should know, is not in accordance with the law.
5. **Adherence to Orders:** Members must obey lawful orders.
6. **Conduct:** Members will use reasonable judgement and refrain from conduct that reflects unfavorably on the Department. This includes conduct which:
  - a. Brings the Department into disrepute;
  - b. Reflects discredit upon the individual as a member of the Department;
  - or
  - c. Tends to impair the operation, effectiveness, or efficiency of the Department or its members.

7. **Cooperation in Investigations:** Members will assist any Department authorized investigation.
8. **Security of Police Information:** Members will treat the official business of the Department as confidential. Members will not:
  - a. Access, review or remove any Department report or record for other than Department purposes;
  - b. Communicate any information that may jeopardize investigations, arrests, police actions or prosecutions, or that may aid a person to escape, destroy, or remove evidence;
  - c. Communicate any information that may endanger the safety or well-being of others or jeopardize the operation of the Department; or
  - d. Disclose any Criminal History or DOR information via unencrypted email or unsecure radio channel.
9. **Use of Force:** Members will use that level of force that is reasonable and prudent for a given situation, to protect themselves or another. Abuses of force will not be tolerated.

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Chris Connally, Chief of Police

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Date