

New Orleans Police Department

Policy Manual

Rule 2: Moral Conduct

1. ADHERENCE TO LAW

Employees shall act in accordance with the constitutions, statutes, ordinances, administrative regulations, and the official interpretations thereof, of the United States, the State of Louisiana, and the City of New Orleans, but when in another jurisdiction shall obey the applicable laws. Neither ignorance of the law, its interpretations, nor failure to be physically arrested and charged, shall be regarded as a valid defense against the requirements to this rule.

2. COURTESY

Employees shall be courteous, civil and respectful in their conduct toward all persons. The use of profane, vulgar or discourteous gestures or language to or in the presence of any citizen is prohibited. The use of profane, vulgar or discourteous gestures or language either verbal or written by one employee to another employee is prohibited.

3. HONESTY AND TRUTHFULNESS

Employees are required to be honest and truthful at all times, in their spoken, written, or electronic communications. Truthfulness shall apply when an employee makes a materially false statement with the intent to deceive. A statement is material when, irrespective of its admissibility under the rules of evidence, it could have affected the course or outcome of an investigation or an official proceeding, whether under oath or not, in all matters and official investigations relating to the scope of their employment and operations of the Department, as follows:

- (a) employees shall truthfully state the facts in any oral, written, or electronic communication;
- (b) employees shall not willfully or negligently make any false, misleading, or incorrect oral, written, or electronic communication;
- (c) employees shall not willfully or negligently withhold relevant information of which they have knowledge, from any oral, written, or electronic communication;
- (d) employees shall truthfully answer all questions directed to them on the order of the Superintendent of Police, the Superintendent's designee, a superior officer, or any judicial, departmental, or other official investigative body.

This regulation does not prohibit using accepted practices in interrogation techniques governed by Federal and/or State Court rulings.

4. DISCRIMINATION

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Employees shall not discriminate against or show partiality to any person because of racial, ethnic, religious, political, sexual, or personal prejudice.

5. VERBAL INTIMIDATION

An employee shall not use or direct unjustifiable verbal abuse, threats or intimidation against any person.

6. UNAUTHORIZED FORCE

Employees shall not use or direct unjustifiable physical abuse, violence, force or intimidation against any person.

7. COURAGE

An employee shall act with courage and confidence and shall not fail to perform any duty because of the danger involved, but shall, however, exercise due care for the safety of his person and that of others, and the security of property commensurate with the circumstances.

8. FAILURE TO REPORT MISCONDUCT

Any department employee who observes or becomes aware of any act of misconduct by another employee of the government shall immediately report the incident to their immediate supervisor or the most appropriate New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) supervisor (Violation of this provision may be charged up to and including the category of the underlying offense not reported).

9. FAILURE TO COOPERATE/WITHHOLDING INFORMATION

In accordance with established rights under law, employees shall not withhold any information, acts, or omissions known to the employee that purposefully interfere or disrupt an authorized investigation, whether internally or externally, investigated by any official entity. Additionally, any employee who withholds information or fails to cooperate with any internal investigation may be disciplined in addition to any other disciplinary action based upon conduct disclosed by the primary investigation.