

GENERAL ORDER 1.1.3

Department Purpose and Values

GENERAL ORDER CROSS-REFERENCE: None.

SUMMARY

Establishes the purpose of the Springfield Police Department and its Values Statement.

EQUAL TREATMENT

A society free from crime and disorder remains an unachieved ideal; nevertheless, consistent with the values of a free society, it is the primary objective of the Springfield Police Department to work cooperatively with other agencies and the community in a manner to approach that ideal. In doing so, the Department's role is to enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner respecting both the statutory and judicial limitations of police authority and the Constitutional rights of all persons. It is not the role of the Department to legislate, to render legal judgments or to punish.

The stopping, detention and search of persons are prohibited when such actions are motivated solely based on a person's real or perceived age, race, ethnicity, color, national origin, language, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, political affiliation, religion, homelessness or disability and when the actions would constitute a violation of the person's civil rights

POLICY

I

The Police Department is responsible for the protection of human life, the public peace, protection of the rights of persons and property, the prevention of crime, and the enforcement of all Federal, State, and local laws and ordinances within the boundaries of the City of Springfield.

In order to meet the primary objective of the Springfield Police Department, we must aspire to certain functional objectives:

- Prevention of crime
- Recovery and return of property
- Deterrence of crime
- Movement of traffic
- Public service
- Apprehension of offenders
- Confinement of offenders

The Department relies on each member and the community to accomplish these objectives.

II

The Springfield Police Department is "Committed to Excellence." The mission of the Springfield Police Department is to serve with honor, uphold the law, and protect the community. We, as individuals, and as an organization, use these values as guiding principles in our service to the community.

PROFESSIONALISM

Committed to excellence in the performance of our duty

INTEGRITY

Consistent ethical behavior through honesty, accountability, and high moral beliefs.

COURAGE

Physical and mental strength to overcome all challenges

HONOR

Respect the noble tradition of law enforcement.

The Values Statement is an important and necessary part of our organization. As part of the initial orientation of all new employees, the Supervisor shall review the Department Values Statement with the new employee. Each new employee shall be provided with a copy of the Statement.

Richard L. Lewis
Chief of Police