

Ordinances Governing  
the  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
of the  
CITY OF ARLINGTON  
TEXAS

Amended by Ordinance No. 88-31  
(February 16, 1988)

(Chapter Designator: POLICE)

ORDINANCE HISTORY

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**ARTICLE I**

**CHIEF OF POLICE**

**Section 1.01 Chief of Police Designated Director; Powers and Duties of Chief**

- A. The Director of the Department of Police shall be the Chief of Police. The Chief of Police shall have immediate direction and control of the Police Department, subject to the supervision of the City Manager, and also subject to such rules, regulations and orders as the City Manager may prescribe not inconsistent with the ordinances of the City, and shall promulgate all orders, rules and regulations for the government of the police force.
- B. The Chief of Police shall devote his whole time to the discharge of his duties and shall see that the laws and ordinances are enforced as far as possible by those under his command, and shall see that policemen are on duty during the whole time of their watch, and shall in no case absent himself from the City without notifying the City Manager of his intended absence. He shall keep a record of all persons committed to jail, the offense with which any such person is charged, and the date of his commitment and release, and a description of such money, property or valuables as the arrested party may have; and he shall, as often as may be required by the City Manager, make a report in writing of all arrests made, by whom made, and the nature of the charge and how disposed of, and a statement of all property recorded by him and how disposed of.
- C. The Chief of Police or his designee shall have the right to initiate action to discipline, suspend and dismiss any of the officers or employees who may be under his jurisdiction and control for just and reasonable cause. Pursuant to this authority, the Chief of Police may establish such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper for the establishment of officer and employee standards of conduct and procedures to implement and enforce the same, subject to their coordination with the Personnel Department, the City Attorney's Office and approval of the City Manager. (Amend Ord 80-219, 12/30/80)

POLICE  
1.02

**Section 1.02 Uniforms, Equipment and Arms**

The Chief of Police shall prescribe the uniforms, badges and equipment for the members of the police force, and direct the manner in which the members of said force shall be armed. (Amend Ord 79-10, 1/23/79)

**Section 1.03 City Jail**

Subject to the direction of the City Manager, the Chief of Police shall have control and management of the City Jail System and shall have the authority to designate such facilities as are necessary for the effective operation of such City Jail System. (Amend Ord 79-10, 1/23/79)

**ARTICLE II**

**POLICE FORCE**

**Section 2.01 Members of Force**

The regular police force of the City shall consist of the Chief of Police and such members of police force as the City Council shall from time to time determine. The Marshall of the City shall be ex officio Chief of Police. (Amend Ord 88-31, 2/16/88)

**Section 2.02 Qualification of Policemen**

Upon the appointment of any policeman by the City Manager, there shall be issued to him a commission as such policeman; and upon the receipt of such commission, the person so appointed shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, take and subscribe the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution of the State and ordinance of the City. (Amend Ord 80-219, 12/30/80)

**Section 2.03 Police Reserve Unit**

See Article IV herein. (Amend Ord 88-31, 2/16/88)

**ARTICLE III**

**POWERS, DUTIES, COMPENSATION, ACT**

**Section 3.01 Powers and Duties of Policemen; Compensation**

The individual peace officers constituting the Department of Police of the City of Arlington shall be and they are hereby invested with all the power and authority given to them as peace officers under the laws of the State of Texas in taking cognizance of and enforcing the criminal laws of the State and the ordinances and regulations of the City within the limits of the City; and it shall be the duty of each such officer to use his best endeavors to prevent the commission, within the City, of offenses against the laws of said State and against the ordinances and regulations of said City; to observe and enforce all such laws, ordinances and regulations; to detect and arrest offenders against the same; to preserve the good order of the City and to secure the inhabitants thereof from violence and the property therein from injury. Such policemen shall have no power or authority in civil matters save that which is necessary for the performance of the official duties assigned to them, but shall execute any criminal warrant or warrant of arrest that may be placed in their hands by the duly constituted authorities of the City. Such policemen shall be compensated by the salary paid them by the City, and they shall be entitled to receive only such other compensation and reimbursement in conjunction with the performance of their official duties as policemen as is provided for by the general laws of the State and authorized by the Chief of Police.

**Section 3.02 All Members to Act; When**

All members of the force must be prepared to act whenever their services are demanded by a superior officer or in view of a violation of an ordinance or law at all times. (Amend Ord 79-10, 1/23/79)

**ARTICLE IV**

**POLICE RESERVE**

**Section 4.01 Established**

There is hereby established the Police Reserve Unit of the City of Arlington Police Department which shall be a voluntary force of reserve policemen hereafter referred to as the "Police Reserve Unit".

**Section 4.02 Under Control of Chief of Police**

The Police Reserve Unit shall function under the general direction and control of the Chief of Police, subject to the supervision of the City Manager, and also subject to such rules, regulations and orders as may be promulgated from time to time by the Chief of Police in accordance with the authority vested in the Chief of Police by the City Charter or the ordinances of the City of Arlington.

**Section 4.03 Voluntary; Limited in Number**

The Police Reserve Unit shall be an auxiliary police force composed of volunteers who shall serve without pay. The Chief of Police shall establish the size, composition and organization of the Police Reserve Unit, which shall not exceed in number the total number of regular police officers.

**Section 4.04 Training**

Prior to performing any duties as a Reserve Police Officer, each Police Reserve applicant shall receive training from the Arlington Police Department in accordance with the requirements of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education and shall apply for licensing by said Commission as a Reserve Police Officer. The names of Reserve Police applicants who have received a license from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education shall be submitted to the City Council by resolution. Upon approval by the City Council, a Reserve Police Officer Commission may be issued to each approved Police Reserve applicant. The



City Council acknowledges and approves for the purpose of the issuance of a Reserve Police Officer Commission, all Reserve Police Officers who, as of the date of the enactment of this Ordinance, are members of the Reserve Police Unit of the City of Arlington and who have been certified by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education and approved by the Chief of Police. (Amend Ord 88-31, 2/16/88)

**Section 4.05 Call to Active Service by Chief of Police**

Members of the Police Reserve Unit shall serve at the discretion of the Chief of Police and may be called into active service at any time the Chief of Police considers it necessary to have additional police officers to preserve the peace and enforce the law.

**Section 4.06 Carry Weapons at Direction of Chief of Police**

No person appointed to the Police Reserve Unit may carry a weapon while serving as a Reserve Police Officer except pursuant to operating procedures established by the Chief of Police.

**Section 4.07 Supplementary Capacity**

Reserve Police Officers of the Police Reserve Unit shall act only in supplementary capacity to the regular Police Force and shall not assume the full time duties of regular police officers without first complying with all requirements for such regular police officers.

**Section 4.08 Uniforms**

The Chief of Police may provide uniforms and equipment for the Reserve Unit from existing supplies and may cause to be purchased special items of identification as necessary.

**Section 4.09 No Compensation**

No Reserve Police Officer appointed pursuant to this Article shall be entitled to compensation for service.

**Section 4.10 Status as Peace Officers**

Reserve Officers of the Police Reserve Unit shall serve as Peace Officers during the actual discharge of official duties, subject at all times to the direction, control and supervisory authority of the Chief of Police. (Amend Ord 79-10, 1/23/79)