

Peace Officers Supplementary Code of Conduct

Preamble

On May 1, 2007 the *Peace Officer Act* was proclaimed. It became mandatory under Section 13 of the Peace Officer (Ministerial) Regulation for peace officer agencies, as defined by the Act, to establish and maintain a code of conduct in accordance with the Regulation. Employers are directly accountable for program operations within their agency and are responsible for developing a code of conduct in accordance with established human resource practices that must meet the minimum standards set out in Section 13 of the Peace Officer (Ministerial) Regulation.

This code of conduct is for peace officers holding an appointment under the *Peace Officer Act*. Following is a list of departments that currently employ peace officers appointed under the Act and are subject to the legislation:

- Advanced Education and Technology
- Agriculture and Food
- Employment, Immigration and Industry
- Environment
- Finance
- Infrastructure and Transportation
- Justice and Attorney General
- Seniors and Community Supports
- Service Alberta
- Solicitor General and Public Security
- Sustainable Resource Development
- Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture

Each of the above departments is responsible to establish a specific supplementary code applicable to their employees' appointed as Peace Officers. Below is the specific reference from the *Peace Officer Act* related to the Code of Conduct:

Section 13(1) Contents of the Code of Conduct

The code of conduct for peace officers is designed to ensure minimum standards and is not exhaustive. Ministries are encouraged to add or further this code of conduct to meet community or agency needs:

13(1) Every authorized employer must establish and maintain a code of conduct for peace officers it employs or engages the services of.

- (2) The code of conduct must include provisions applicable to the duties and responsibilities of peace officers the authorized employer employs or engages the services of, including:
 - (a) requiring peace officers to comply with the terms and conditions of the employer's authorization,
 - (b) requiring peace officers to comply with the terms of the peace officer's appointment,
 - (c) requiring peace officers to comply with the employer's code of conduct for peace officers,
 - (d) prohibiting peace officers from
 - (i) engaging in disorderly or inappropriate conduct, or
 - (ii) acting in a way that would be harmful to the discipline of peace officers or that is likely to discredit the office of peace officer,
 - (e) prohibiting peace officers from withholding or suppressing information, complaints or reports about any other peace officer,
 - (f) requiring peace officers to promptly and diligently perform the peace officers' duties and responsibilities,
 - (g) prohibiting peace officers from making or signing false, misleading or inaccurate statements,
 - (h) prohibiting, without lawful excuse, peace officers from
 - (i) destroying, mutilating or concealing records or property, or
 - (ii) altering or erasing an entry in a record,
 - (i) respecting when confidentiality must be maintained,
 - (j) requiring peace officers to properly account for or return money or property that the peace officer receives in the peace officer's capacity as a peace officer,
 - (k) prohibiting activities that may or will result in a conflict of interest or an apprehension of or a lack of integrity in the office of peace officer,

- (l) prohibiting peace officers from using the peace officer's position for the peace officer's own advantage or another person's advantage,
- (m) prohibiting peace officers from exercising the peace officer's authority as a peace officer when it is unnecessary to do so,
- (n) prohibiting peace officers from consuming alcohol while on duty, except in the performance of the peace officer's duties,
- (o) prohibiting peace officers from consuming controlled drugs and controlled substances under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada), and
- (p) except in the performance of the peace officer's duties, prohibiting peace officers from possessing controlled drugs and controlled substances the possession of which is prohibited by law.

Other References

- [Alberta Regulation 312/2006 Peace Officer Act Peace Officer \(Ministerial\) Regulation](#)
- [Alberta Regulation 291/2006 Peace Officer Act Peace Officer Regulation](#)
- [Peace Officer Act](#)
- [Code of Conduct and Ethics for the Public Service of Alberta](#)

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