

		DIRECTIVE 1.4			
SUBJECT Law Enforcement Role and Authority		NO. PAGES 2			
DISTRIBUTION All Personnel	AMENDS Directive §1.4 Dated: 11/22/93	THIS ORDER CANCELS • Cross Reference Directives 6.11a, 6.6			
DATE OF APPROVAL 11/5/13	DATE OF ISSUE 12/27/13	Applicable Accreditation Standards			
		1.2.6	1.2.7	15.2.1	
ISSUED BY: Chief Christine R. Dunning  Chief of Police Reviewed: 8/5/13					

Law Enforcement Role and Authority

Directive: **1.4**

A. Goals and Objectives

The Wilmington Police Department provides for police protection, law enforcement, investigation and prevention, and the maintenance of order in the community. To maintain these services, the Department of Police will annually formulate and update goals and objectives. The goals and objectives for the calendar year will be distributed to all members of the Department by January 31 of each year. Establishing goals and objectives for the year and distributing them to all personnel ensures direction and unity of purpose. (CALEA 15.2.1)

B. Annual Submission of Goals and Objectives

It will be the responsibility of Division Commanders to obtain input from all personnel levels within their Command in the development of Department goals and objectives. Division Commanders will submit, in writing, their Divisional goals and objectives **yearly** to the Chief of Police. Division Commanders will also submit in writing, on a **yearly** basis to the Chief of Police, the progress their division has made toward achieving the goals and objectives. (CALEA 15.2.1)

C. Limits of Authority

All sworn members of the Department of Police have legally mandated authority as provided by Title 11, Chapter 19, Section 1911. The law states the scope and limits of law enforcement authority granted to members of the Department of Police, as it pertains to the enforcement of laws, statutes, and ordinances. This is covered in detail under Directive 6.6 of the Police Officer's Manual. (CALEA 1.2.6, 1.2.7)

D. Use of Discretion

Members of the Department of Police will use discretion in the performance of their duties that reflects sound judgment. They will not violate the Oath of Office or Code of Ethics they have sworn to uphold. Members will, at certain times, use their discretion when to effect an arrest or issue a warning, providing the circumstances justify the warning and not an arrest. In the event departmental procedure mandates an arrest or a superior officer issues a direct order to effect an arrest, members should follow procedure or orders, and not use their own discretion.

When confronted with certain problems or situations, members of the department may elect to use the appropriate referral services available for that particular problem in lieu of arrest. Members will, however, strive to enforce frequently violated laws, especially those that jeopardize the health, life, or safety of residents and visitors of the City. Members should rely on departmental orders and policies, as well as City, State and Federal Laws to guide them in making arrests and performing their duties.

Members may elect, in certain situations, to issue a Criminal Summons in lieu of a formal arrest for misdemeanors; however, they should follow the guidelines as set forth in Directive 6.11 (A) of the Police Officer's Manual as to which particular situations allow for the issuance of a Criminal Summons. (CALEA 1.2.6 and 1.2.7)