

Chapter 71 -- Police Department

Subchapter A -- Police, General

71.010. Generally. This Chapter consists of the rules and regulations for the operation of the police department of this City.

71.020. Chief of police, authority. The chief of police is the director of the police department. He shall have immediate and direct control of the department subject to the supervision of the Mayor, and subject to such other rules, regulations, and orders as the Mayor may prescribe. He shall promulgate and enforce orders, rules, and regulations (consistent with this Code and with the rules, regulations, and orders of the Mayor) for the efficient operation of the police department.

71.030. Same, duties. The chief of police, if appointed on full-time basis, shall devote his entire time to the discharge of his official duties.

71.040. Patrolmen, assignments. Assignment of a patrolman is at the discretion of the chief of police. For the purpose of this Chapter, all police (including the chief) are considered patrolmen.

71.050. Patrolmen, duties. Each patrolman shall:

1. be familiar with every part of town, observing anything unusual to assist in the prevention of crime.
2. examine all doors and windows of commercial and industrial buildings at night and report to the owner thereof any that are not properly secured.
3. report whenever he has reasonable grounds to suspect that any building or part thereof is being used in violation of the law or is the resort for persons of known bad character and be prepared to give information relative to the nature of business conducted by firms on his beat.
4. not leave the city limits while on duty except in case of emergency and in such cases must file a written report of the same with the city clerk who shall make the report available to the Mayor.
5. enforce all traffic ordinances in addition to his other duties.

6. observe and report violations of City ordinances and state law.
7. be responsible for the care and operation of the vehicle assigned to him.

71.060. Standard of conduct. Any of the following is sufficient cause for the suspension or discharge of any member of the police department:

1. For drinking intoxicating liquor while on duty or in uniform.
2. For intoxication while either on or off duty.
3. For willful disobedience to any order lawfully issued to him.
4. For disrespect shown to the Mayor or an alderman.
5. For incompetency in the performance of his duties.
6. For any neglect of duty.
7. For making known any investigation or proposed movement of the department to any person not a member of the department or the Board of Aldermen, or for discussing the affairs of the department, in a manner likely to disrupt the movement or discipline of the department, with any person not a member of the department or the Board of Aldermen.
8. For unnecessary and unwarranted violence toward a prisoner.
9. For cowardice or for lack of energy which may be construed as either incompetency or gross neglect of duty.
10. For sleeping while on duty.
11. For violating any of the rules, regulations, or orders of the department or of the Mayor, if same be in writing.
12. For indecent, profane, or harsh language while on duty or in uniform.
13. For absence without leave.
14. For conduct unbecoming an officer or a gentleman, whether on duty or off duty.
15. For conduct detrimental to the good order and discipline of the department.

16. For careless handling of City property, either fixed or movable.
17. For conviction of any felony.
18. For repeated violation of City ordinances.
19. For failure to cooperate with the City prosecutor in the preparation or trial of any case, or for providing assistance to a defendant or defense counsel in any legal action brought by the City.

71.070. Conduct and deportment. All members of the department shall be quiet, civil, and orderly in their conduct and deportment, and shall at all times be attentive and zealous in the discharge of their duty, controlling their temper and exercising the utmost patience and discretion. They shall answer any questions put to them with all possible correctness and courtesy (not in a short or careless manner), avoiding at all times unnecessary argument.

71.080. Disturbances. Any member of the department shall go instantly to the scene of any disturbance or breach of the peace occurring within his vicinity, use his best effort to restore peace and quiet, making such arrests as may be necessary, and notify and make necessary reports to the Police Department.

71.090. Truthfulness of members. All members of the department are required to speak the truth at all times, and under all circumstances, whether under oath or not. If forbidden by the rules of the department to divulge information, they will state "No Comment."

71.100. Members to give name. Any member of the department, when called upon to do so by any person under any circumstances, shall give his name in a respectful and courteous manner.

71.110. Cooperation. Every member of the department is expected to discharge his duties with coolness and firmness in all cases; and in times of extreme peril all available officers shall act together and assist and protect each other in restoring peace and order. Anyone shirking his duty in case of danger or responsibility in an emergency shall be considered unworthy of a place in the department, and may be discharged.

71.120. Members to use judgment. All members of the department shall be particularly careful not to interfere officiously or unnecessarily in the private business of any person, but when required to act in the discharge of their duty they shall do so with energy and decision, and in the proper exercise of their authority they will receive the fullest support of the department.

71.130. Testimony. Officers shall appear in court on any case in which they are witnesses. If duty demands their absence from the municipal court (police court), they shall report the matter to the chief of police in order that the case may be continued. Officers on the witness stand, in response to questions asked, will state in clear and distinct words, truthfully, all they know regarding a matter, without fear or reservation.

71.140. Members will be familiar with rules, etc. Each member of the department will be furnished with a copy of any rules, regulations, and orders issued by the chief of police or the Mayor, which he shall keep in his possession, and with which he shall be familiar at all times.

71.150. Uniform. Every member of the department shall wear the uniform as the chief of police may from time to time prescribe. The uniforms will be furnished and remain property of the City, to be surrendered upon leaving the service. They shall, when on duty, carry such equipment as the chief of police may prescribe or adopt and when in uniform, keep their badge always in sight. No member of the department shall ever appear for duty in civilian clothing without special permission of the chief of police.

71.160. Same, when off duty. No member of the department shall ever wear his uniform or any part of it when off duty, except with the express permission of the chief of police.

71.170. Same, care of uniform and equipment. All members of the department will be required to be neat in appearance and keep their uniforms and equipment in good condition and in perfect order and repair.

71.180. Restrictions applying to suspended officers. No member of the department shall wear his uniform or carry a pistol while under suspension for any cause; and such member shall immediately surrender his badge and police identification to the chief of police when notified of his suspension.

71.190. Duty hours. Although certain hours are required for the performance of duty on ordinary occasions, members must be prepared at all times to act immediately on notice that their service is required. Members of the department shall be considered as always on duty for the purpose of discipline. The hours of duty will be regulated by the chief of police.

71.200. Police vehicles. Police officers are not to use police vehicles except in the discharge of their duties. Police vehicles are not available for personal use.

71.210. Duty to preserve peace. Although regular hours of duty shall be assigned to all members of the department, it shall be the duty of every officer of the department, at all times, day or night, within the City, to preserve the public peace, protect the rights of persons and property, guard the public health, preserve order at all elections and public assemblies; prevent and cause to be removed, if possible, nuisances on and in all streets, highways, areas, alleys, and other places, and enforce the criminal law of the State of Missouri and the ordinances of the City.

71.220. Use of unnecessary violence toward prisoners. No officer shall willfully mistreat or use unnecessary violence toward any person, prisoner, or otherwise. He shall not strike any prisoner except as a last resort in an effort to overcome resistance or prevent escape.

71.230. Qualifications for police officers. All full-time police officers employed by the City shall be between the ages of twenty-one (21) years of age and sixty-five (65) years of age and have one hundred twenty (120) hours of police training. They shall be of good moral character and shall not have been convicted of any misdemeanor or felony. They shall be able to write legibly and shall furnish at least three good character references. A written examination for any applicant for police officer for the City shall be discretionary with the Board of Aldermen. Any of these qualifications may be waived by the Board of Aldermen by resolution.

Subchapter B -- Auxiliary Police

71.500. Auxiliary police established. An auxiliary police force is hereby established to be a volunteer organization, composed of not to exceed twenty (20) members, separate and distinct from the police department of this City but to be headed by the chief of police under the direction and supervision of the Mayor.

71.510. How appointed. The chief of police with the advice and consent of the Board of Aldermen, shall from time to time as the needs of the City may require, appoint auxiliary policemen who shall serve for a term of one year under the direction of the police chief.

71.520. Called to duty. Auxiliary policemen so appointed shall be on inactive status except when called to duty by the police chief and in his absence the Mayor and the duration of their active duty when called to duty shall be prescribed by the police chief or in his absence the Mayor. While on duty, such auxiliary policemen shall perform any and all duties which may be performed by regular policemen and shall be governed by the rules and regulations of the police department.

71.530. Chief of police to direct. The duties of the auxiliary police force are subject at all times to the direction, supervision, and control of the chief of police and shall be to assist the regular members of the police department of the City and the enforcement of law and maintenance of peace and order during the emergency of war, great common peril or in a situation wherein the regular police department is deemed inadequate for the occasion. The chief of policy may by order establish rules and regulations to govern the auxiliary police force, to fix the specific duties of its members and to provide for its maintenance and discipline.

71.540. Conservator of the peace. A member of the auxiliary police force while on duty shall be a conservator of the peace and shall have the power to arrest or cause to be arrested with or without process all persons who shall break the peace or be found violating any ordinance of the City or laws of the State.

71.550. Compensation. Auxiliary policemen shall be compensated while on duty at a rate of pay as established from time to time by ordinance.

71.560. Loss of equipment. Equipment and property utilized in the carrying out of the common police services provided by this contract shall be at the risk of the municipality or county owning the same and any loss or damage thereto shall be borne by such owner municipality or county, provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to limit the liability of any municipality or its agents, servants or employees arising out of tortious conduct.