

River Bend Police Department
Oath and Ethics of Office
General Order 01

Effective Date: 09/02/2025

Supersedes: 05/01/2012

01.01 **Policy:** All personnel, prior to assuming sworn status, shall take the oath of office to enforce the law and uphold the Constitution of United States and the State of North Carolina. All personnel shall abide by the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics which is adopted as a general order of conduct for River Bend Police employees.

01.02 **Oath of Office:** I, (name of officer), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will be alert and vigilant to enforce the criminal laws of this State; that I will not be influenced in any matter on account of personal bias or prejudice; that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina not inconsistent therewith; and I will faithfully and impartially discharge and execute the duties of my office as a law enforcement officer of the Town of River Bend according to the best of my skill, abilities and judgment; so help me God.

01.03 **Code of Ethics:** As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property, to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accept gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession law enforcement.

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