

**River Bend Police Department**  
**Reserve Officer Program**  
**General Order 43**  
**Effective 05/01/2012-Changed 07/01/14**

**43.01**      **Policy:** The River Bend Police Department Reserve Program has been established, and will be maintained, in order to provide a ready reserve force. The Reserve Officer Program will supplement regular sworn personnel, and provide qualified personnel resources to assist in natural disasters, civil disorders, emergencies, ceremonial duties and patrol duties.

The Reserve Officer Program shall be considered a personnel alternative and will be a substitute for full-time sworn officers. Recognized as a valuable addition to the Police Department, their selection, training, and assignments will coincide with their role within the department. Generally, future full time officers will come from the ranks of the Reserve Officer Program after completion of the FTO program.

Reserve Officers serve at the pleasure of the Chief of Police and can have their status changed or removed as a reserve officer at the discretion of the Chief of Police.

**43.02.**      **Reserve Officer:** A Reserve Officer is fully certified as a non-paid Police Officer, having full arrest authority. Such an officer is utilized to supplement agency enforcement activities by performing duties and exercising authority parallel to that of a full-time law enforcement officer. Thus, a certified Reserve Officer, once completed the Field Training Program may perform solo patrol duties.

**43.03**      **Qualifications:** The rules of the Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission will govern the required qualifications of Reserve Officers. **There shall be no exceptions to these requirements.** All Reserve Officer Applicants must meet the same minimum qualifications as full time applicants.

**43.04**      **Eligibility:** Reserve applicants must be gainfully employed or financially independent or financially solvent and must comply with eligibility requirements established for regular sworn officers.

**43.05**      **Processing and Selection:** All applicants for the position of Reserve Officer shall be processed, selected and appointed in accordance those for regular full or part time officers.

**43.06**      **Uniform and Equipment:** When on duty, Reserve Officers will be required to carry the same basic equipment as a regular sworn officer. Reserve Officers will be supplied with adequate uniforms, to include most leather gear, ammunition and other equipment the department's expense. Reserve Officers will provide their own side arm (pending the Chief of Police approval), level 2 or 3 holster, 2 slot magazine pouch and two magazines. If the Reserve Officer wishes to qualify and carry a ASP type expandable baton, the purchase of that item will be at their expense.

**43.07**      **Discipline:** A Reserve Officer may be reprimanded, suspended or have his/her appointment withdrawn by the Chief of Police for violating established rules of conduct applicable to full time police personnel. Members of the River Bend Police Reserve Unit shall be afforded the rights and privileges of full time Officers.

**43.08**      **Training Requirements:** The Training Unit of the Department will administer the Reserve Officers recruit training program in compliance with Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission requirements.

Reserve Recruit Training: **Reserve recruits shall** attend the Basic Law Enforcement Police Academy. Upon graduation from the academy, the Reserve Officer will complete an equivalent Field Training and Evaluation Program. The total program will consist of 480 hours. This program must be completed within a two (2) year period. An extension may be granted by the Chief of Police upon petition of the reserve recruit. The Recruit shall also attend a departmental designated training as directed. The pace of the FTO program will be based on the availability of the reserve officer and the training officer.

**43.09**      **Responsibilities/Dismissal:** Reserve Officers of the River Bend Police Department must be willing to assist the department in the maintenance of peace, suppression of crime, control of public disorder, direction of traffic, during natural disasters and to perform support services as required by the Chief of Police or his designee.

The Reserve Officers must contribute a minimum of sixteen (16) (JULY 01, 2014 goes to 24hrs) voluntary unpaid hours per month unless exempted by the Chief, due to a leave of absence, sick leave or other valid reason. If the failure to show up for the above reasons becomes an issue or if the officer cannot come in if requested, with sufficient notice, the Chief of Police may withdraw his/her appointment. Officers will not be requested to come in if it conflicts with their primary or secondary paid employment.

Failure to satisfy the monthly hour requirement for at least one (1) months or a total of two (2) months per calendar year, would subject the Reserve Officer to having his/her appointment withdrawn by the Chief of Police.

Reserve Officers will make an effort or offer to make up some or all of their hours during that same month, no later than the second month at times that would be beneficial to the department.

It is recommended that a Reserve Officer attend roll call at the beginning of each shift, unless in FTO status.

**43.09.01**      **Firearms:** Reserve Officers will not carry any firearm when not on official duty, except as specified under North Carolina law.

Reserve Officers must attend departmental training classes and firearms qualifications. Reserve officers will provide their own approved ammunition for qualification(s).

Failure to attend departmental quarterly training classes or firearms qualifications will subject the Reserve Officer to having his or her appointment withdrawn by the Chief of Police.

Reserve Officers who fail to qualify with their sidearm (pistol) during annual qualification will NOT be allowed to attend remedial firearms training and will be subject to having their appointment withdrawn by the Chief of Police.

- 43.10**      **Authorities and Duties:** Reserve Officers may only act within their delegated authority and shall perform those duties enumerated herein. Reserve Officers will supplement agency enforcement activities by performing duties and exercising authority parallel to that of a certified regular sworn officer. After successfully completing the Field Training program, a Reserve Officer may ride solo patrol.
- 43.10.01**    **Benefits:** Reserve Officers on duty are entitled to workmen's compensation for any injuries incurred while on duty.
- 43.11**      **Reporting for Duty:** Reserve Officers will report to the on duty officer. They will then sign the reserve log located at the police department, attend roll call if possible, and notify the Communications Center of their assignment.
- 43.12**      **Activity Report:** The activities performed by Reserve Officers must be accurately documented. The responsibility for this documentation rests with the Reserve Officer.
- 43.12.01**    **Evaluations:** Reserve Officers are not subject to Town of River Bend evaluations in the same manner as full-part time sworn employees.
- 43.13**      **Training:** Reserve Officer may attend additional training other than state mandated after they have completed the Field Training Officer program. Such as going for training to the North Carolina Justice Academy classes, local community colleges and other law enforcement training. All request for training must be approved by the Chief of Police. All training costs will be born by the Reserve Officer and not reimbursed by the Town or Department.

**End**