

**LANCASTER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL**

<b>Effective Date</b> August 12, 2015		<b>Amended Date</b>		<b>Directive</b> 2.03.1	
<b>Subject</b> Oath of Office					
<b>Reference</b>				<b>Approved</b>  Chief of Police	
<b>Distribution</b> All Personnel City Manager City Attorney		<b>TPCA Best Practices Recognition Program Reference</b>  2.03		<b>Review Date</b>  January 22, 2019	
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This Operations Directive is for internal use only and does not enhance an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as a creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this Operations Directive, if proven, may only form the basis for a complaint by this Department, and only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

**SECTION 1 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to require that each officer take and sign an oath of office, which shall be maintained in the officer's personnel file.

**SECTION 2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the department that each officer shall take and sign an oath of office prior to conducting any law enforcement duties for the department.

**SECTION 3 PROCEDURES**

A. The Chief of Police or designee shall administer the oath of office and statement of appointed officer for all new officers.

B. The oath of office shall be given as followed:

1. "I, (officer's name), do solemnly swear or affirm, that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of Lancaster Police Officer of the State of Texas, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State, so help me God."

C. The training coordinator or designee shall ensure that each officer takes and signs an oath of office prior to the new officer taking any law enforcement action. The training coordinator or designee shall then file the oath of office form in the individual's personnel file.

**D. SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY**

1. All members of the department shall know and comply with all aspects of this directive.
2. All Division Commanders and supervisory personnel are responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions and intent of this directive.