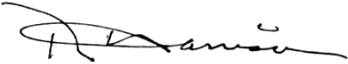


# TEXARKANA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Departmental Police Psychologist</b>		
<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>1101.06</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>June 01,2010</b>
<b>Scheduled Review Date</b>	<b>June 13, 2021</b>	<b>ISSUE DATE</b>	<b>June 01,2010</b>
<b>Date Reviewed</b>	<b>June 13, 2019</b>	<b>REVISION DATE</b>	
<b>APPROVED BY</b>		<b>ALEAP Standards</b>	

### I. Scope and Purpose

- A. The Texarkana Police Department acknowledges the law enforcement career field is at times very stressful, as many of the situations police officers are exposed to can often evolve from routine circumstances into very hazardous situations. When linked together with the common stress experienced in society, the totality of stress experienced by police officers can sometimes be difficult to manage. For this reason, the Department has incorporated procedures and developed a program by which the officers of the Agency can receive assistance from trained professionals who are uniquely suited to address stress-related issues. In addition, these professionals are also tasked with the responsibility of assisting the Agency in selecting and evaluating employment applicants to determine their suitability for employment with the Department.

### II. Policy

- A. It shall be the policy of the Texarkana Police Department to recruit, enlist and maintain the services of a State Licensed and practicing Psychologist who shall be required to remain dedicated to the needs of the Department and steadfast in their willingness to assist the Agency and its officers and their families during periods and under circumstances deemed appropriate.

### III. Administrative Requirements and Standards of the Police Psychologist

- A. The following is a list of mandatory administrative requirements and standards a Psychologist must achieve and maintain before enlisted into the Department's Police Psychologist position:
1. The eligible Psychologist must be State Licensed and maintain a full-time practice in Texarkana;
  2. In order to assist the officers of the Department, the Psychologist must make themselves available in an "on-call" basis and stand ready to respond to the needs of the Agency;
  3. Foster a genuine concern for the welfare of the officers of the Department and their families;
  4. Maintain an understanding of the basis of the law enforcement career field while accepting the career field's unique operational demands;
  5. The eligible Psychologist must not have any felony criminal violations within his/her history;
  6. The eligible Psychologist must have a valid driver's license with no history of major traffic violations;

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7. Submit to a complete background investigation conducted under the command of the Services Division Commander; and
8. Must sign a waiver of liability agreement with the City of Texarkana, Arkansas before he/she can participate in any type of ride-along program with the officers of the Department.

**IV. Duties and Responsibilities of the Departmental Psychologist**

- A. Administer pre-employment psychological testing of prospective candidates;
- B. Provide counseling to Departmental officers who are experiencing family, emotional or alcohol dependency problems. This may be initiated by either the individual officer or the officer's supervisor;
- C. Psychologist's response during post-shooting incidents:
  1. During instances that find the deployment of deadly force by any member of the Department, the Department Psychologist shall be contacted immediately for the purpose of debriefing and counseling the officer prior to the officer's release from duty;
    - a. The Department Psychologist's function will commence following the collection of the affected officer's statement by a member of the Criminal Investigation Division and/or an Internal Affairs Investigator.
    - b. The Department Psychologist shall continue to evaluate the officer's psychological progress following the traumatic event, and the Psychologist shall determine when the officer has reached a stage that allows for his/her return to regularly assigned duties. When the Psychologist arrives at this decision, he/she shall formally advise the Department's Administrators byway of written documentation.
- D. The Department Psychologist may be called upon to respond to any Department SWAT Operation involving a hostage or similar crisis situation. The Psychologist's function during such a response would be centered upon the advisement of the SWAT Commander on issues unique to his/her expertise, and if the circumstances dictate, facilitate communication with the suspect and/or meet with family members affiliated with either the hostage or the suspect.
  1. During such a response, the Department Psychologist shall be under the supervision of the SWAT Commander.

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