

OATH OF OFFICE

<i>Effective Date:</i> April 15, 2013	<i>Directive Number:</i> 10-1-21
<i>Special Instructions:</i>	
<i>Distribution:</i> All Sworn & Civilian Personnel	<i>Last Re-Evaluation Date:</i> <i>Total Pages:</i> 2

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide law enforcement officers the required procedure for swearing to an Oath of Office .

II. POLICY

It is essential that all law enforcement officers adhere to an ethical pledge to obey and enforce the laws fairly and equally without any other consideration whatsoever. This is the moral obligation that the law enforcement officer makes to the public and for which the officer will be held accountable.

The Oath of Office state: *"I, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support , obey and defend the Constitution of the United States, The Constitution and Laws of the State of Delaware and the Charter of Cheswold, DE, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as the _____ of the Town of Cheswold, so help me God.*

III. PROCEDURE

1. All newly hired law enforcement officers, in a manner prescribed by the agency, shall acknowledge that they will uphold, obey and enforce the laws without consideration to any person's race, color, sex, religious creed, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, handicap or disability.
2. All newly hired law enforcement officers shall recite the Oath of Office in a formal swearing-in ceremony which shall be officiated by the Mayor of Cheswold. Upon completing the swearing-in ceremony, the newly sworn officer will sign the official, printed Oath of Office document in the presence of the Mayor of Cheswold and the Chief of Police.

IV. CODE OF ETHICS FOR SWORN OFFICERS

A. Adoption and Obedience

This Department hereby adopts the Code of Ethics set forth in the following section. All sworn officers of this Department shall abide by the tenets of this Code at all times and shall receive ethics training.

B. The Code

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 mankind 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 what 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.

ORDERED and EXECUTED this 15th day of APRIL, 2013

Christopher Workman
Chief of Police