

Officer M.N.O.P. and Me:

How Police Officers Serve the Community on and off Duty

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www.OfficerMNOP.com



Police Oath of Office

and

Police Code of Ethics

Original and Simplified Versions

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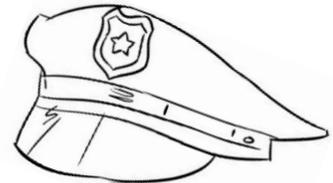
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Police Oath of Office

Before anyone can become a police officer, he or she must make the following promise.



Original Version	Simplified Version
<p>"I, _____, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of _____ against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of _____; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter."</p>	<p>"I, _____, promise to protect the laws of the United States. I also promise to protect the laws of my state, _____.</p> <p>"I promise this because I believe it is right to do so. No one is forcing me to make these promises.</p> <p>"I will do my very best in all my work as a police officer."</p>

Police Code of Ethics

All police officers believe it is important to courageously put themselves in harm's way if needed in order to protect strangers. They also believe it is important to be honest and fair to all people. These beliefs are stated in the Code of Ethics that police officers follow.

Original Version

"As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; 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 never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, 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 accepting 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. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice."

Simplified Version

"As a police officer, I will serve my city or town. I will keep people and property safe. I will protect people from being cheated. I will protect people from being bullied. I will respect everyone's right to be free, to be equal to others, and to be treated the same as everyone else.

"I will never bully any person, no matter who they are or what they are like. I will not allow crime. I will kindly make sure people obey laws. I will never take money from a bad person to let them get away with doing bad things."

