

BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Berlin, Maryland

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| SUBJECT:<br>POLITICS AND ETHICS           |  | NO:<br>200 C-1                           |
| APPROVED/EFFECTIVE DATE<br>22 August 1994 | AMENDS   | RESCINDS - G.O. 4-<br>85 Annex A, Rule 1 |
| DISTRIBUTION/DATE<br>A                    | REFERENCES - L. E. Standards for<br>Accreditation Manual |  |

- .10 Members shall not engage in political activity on duty, or when acting in an official capacity, or when in uniform, except to vote.
- .20 Members shall not solicit or accept from any person, business, or organization, any gift (including money, tangible or intangible personal property, food, beverage, loan promise, service or entertainment for personal benefit or the benefit of the department), when it may be inferred that the person, business, or organization seeks to influence action of an official nature or affects the interest in the performance of an official duty.
- .30 Members shall not bring improper influence on any member of the department or the city government to secure promotion or transfer, or to avoid penalties for action or conduct.
- .40 Members shall not recommend or suggest, except in transacting personal business, use a particular product, professional service, or commercial service (attorney, bondsman, towing service, lock and alarm company, etc.).
- .50 Members shall not publicly criticize or ridicule the department, its policies or employees, by speech, writing, or other expression, when such action can undermine the effectiveness of the department, interfere with discipline, or is made with disregard to the truth. This shall not be interpreted to inhibit or hamper the right of free speech.
- .60 Members shall not address public gatherings, appear on radio or television, prepare articles for publication, act as correspondents to a publisher, or otherwise appear in public as representatives of the department without the approval of the Chief of Police or his/her designee.

- .70 Members shall not circulate, distribute, sell or solicit tickets, handbills, posters, literature or materials while on duty or while on departmental property, without the permission of the Chief of Police.
- .80 Members shall treat the official business of the department as confidential. Information regarding official business shall be disseminated only to those for whom it is intended, in accordance with departmental procedures. They shall not divulge the identities of confidential informants, except as authorized.
- .90 Members must not act officially without authority in any civil case, except when action is required to prevent a breach of the peace, or to assist in quelling a disturbance.
- .100 Any member of the department summonsed to the State's Attorney's Office of Worcester County, or of any other city, county, or Federal jurisdiction or before any Judge concerning any matter in which he/she or any member of the department becomes a defendant, shall immediately report the facts to the Chief of Police.