CHIEF'S PREFACE

As dedicated public servants and the most visual representatives of our countries rule of law, members of the Fargo Police Department must conduct themselves in a manner that sets an example for others, focuses on treating all persons with dignity and respect, and ensures accountability and competence in the carrying out of our duties.

It is incumbent upon all members that we police in a fair and transparent manner, consistent with the tenets of procedural justice and principles of a free society, while providing outstanding service and protection for our community. Further, these policies represent our commitment to excellence in our profession and are reflective of our department values.

The Fargo Police Policy Manual contains the Department's guidance and philosophy in a variety of critical and routine tasks for our members to follow. In addition to the Policy Manual, the Procedures Manual explains in a step-by-step approach how members should perform certain job functions or tasks. Not every policy will have a procedural component, but for those that do, the procedure number corresponds with the policy number for consistency. Both the policy and procedure manuals are accessible via the phone application. In order to ensure uniformity of approach, as well as operational efficiency and effectiveness, all members of the Fargo Police Department are required to be familiar with the policies and procedures contained in this manual and any future updates.

The policies and procedures are intended to provide guidance to our members, enabling them to make administrative, investigative, and operational decisions within the confines of best practice, department philosophy, and our guiding vision, mission, and core values. These policies shall remain in effect as issued unless rescinded or amended by the Chief of Police. In the event any policy conflicts with a previously written directive, policy, standard operating procedure, or training bulletin, the policies contained herein shall assume precedence. However, any such conflict or deficiency in policy shall be reported in writing to the chair of the Policy Review Committee who shall, after committee review, forward any suggested edits to the Chief for review and appropriate action. As new policies are released, previously existing policies will be rescinded and archived.

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