

	DELMAR POLICE DEPARTMENT	
	Policy 1.9 Oaths of Office	
	Effective Date: 01/01/15	Replaces: N/A
	Approved: <u>Ivan Barkley</u> Chief of Police	
Reference: DPAC: 1.1.1		

I. 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.

All law enforcement officers in Maryland, prior to assuming sworn status, will take an oath of office to uphold the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Maryland, and to enforce the laws of the State of Maryland and the Town of Delmar, Maryland. All sworn officers will abide by the oath of office while employed by this department as a law enforcement officer.

The Delaware Oath of Office shall adhere to the language required by **Article VI, §3 of the Constitution of Delaware**, which states: *“I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support , obey and defend the constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Delaware and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity”*.

II. PURPOSE

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

III. PROCEDURE

- A. All newly hired law enforcement officer, 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.
- B. All newly hired law enforcement officers shall recite the Oaths of Office in a formal swearing-in ceremony which shall be officiated by the Mayors of Delmar, Maryland and Delmar, Delaware. Upon completing the swearing-in ceremony, the newly sworn officer will sign the official, printed Oaths of Office documents in the presence of the Mayors of Delmar and the Chief of Police.