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DEPARTMENTAL
GENERAL
ORDER

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Index as:
Police Reserve Section
Reserve Officers

POLICE RESERVE PROGRAM

The purpose of this order is to set forth policy and procedures for the police reserve program.

I. ORGANIZATION

- A. The Police Reserve Detail is an organizational unit of the Special Operations Division under the direct supervision of a regular member of the Department assigned as the officer-in-charge. For the purposes of this Order the term "reserve officer" shall mean Reserve Detail personnel of all ranks, unless otherwise indicated.
- B. Reserve ranks shall be as follows:
 - 1. Reserve Captain
 - 2. Reserve Lieutenant
 - 3. Reserve Sergeant
 - 4. Reserve Police Officer
- C. Under the direction of the officer-in-charge, reserve commanders and supervisors shall maintain liaison with regular commanders and supervisors concerning the training and utilization of reserve officers.
- D. When assigned to any duty, a reserve officer, regardless of rank, shall be subordinate to and obey the lawful orders of any regular member of the Department.
- E. Reserve officers are subject to and shall comply with all policies, rules, regulations, and procedures set forth in departmental orders, bulletins, and manuals. Reservists shall at all times conduct themselves in such a manner as to avoid reflecting any criticism on the Department.

- F. Reserve officers are prohibited from receiving any compensation from any source for their services.

II. AUTHORITY FOR APPOINTMENT AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESERVE OFFICERS

- A. Pursuant to Penal Code Section 830.6(a)(1), any qualified person who is appointed by proper authority as a reserve officer and who is assigned specific peace officer functions by the appointing authority is a peace officer. However, the authority, duties, powers, immunities, and privileges of a peace officer are vested in a reserve police officer only for the duration of specific authorized duty assignments.
- B. To be qualified for appointment as a reserve officer, an individual must meet the selection criteria set forth in Part III and must satisfactorily complete the training program set forth in Part IV.
- C. The authority to appoint qualified persons to the position of reserve officer is vested in the Chief of Police. The authority to assign reserve officers to specific functions is delegated to the Deputy Chief of the Bureau of Field Operations.

III. SELECTION CRITERIA

- A. The selection criteria for reserves are the same as that for full-time officers, except reserve officers have no requirement to reside in a specified area (residency zone). Persons who wish to be considered for appointment as reserve officers must have the following basic qualifications:
 - 1. Be a United States citizen and at least 21 years old at the time of appointment.
 - 2. Be in satisfactory physical health, have normal color vision and visual acuity correctable to 20/20.
 - 3. Be a high school graduate or possess a GED certificate of high school equivalency.
 - 4. Possess a valid California driver's license.

- B. Candidates must pass a comprehensive medical and psychological evaluation administered by those designated by the Office of Personnel Resource Management. The City Physician's decision as to physical and psychological suitability shall be final.
- C. Candidates must pass a standard mental ability examination.
- D. A background and character investigation shall be conducted regarding each candidate who meets the preceding selection criteria, and any detrimental information resulting from the investigation may be cause for disqualification. Candidates may be required to submit to a voice stress analyzer and/or a polygraph examination in connection with the background investigation.

IV. RESERVE TRAINING PROGRAM

- A. Candidates who possess a current Level I or II POST Certificate and who meet the foregoing selection criteria shall, upon appointment, successfully complete an approved Department orientation course.
- B. Candidates who meet the selection criteria set forth in Part III and who do not possess current Level I or II POST certification shall be enrolled in the basic training program required by POST for appointment as a Level I, II, or III reserve officer.
 - 1. Candidates shall be required to attend training courses regularly and demonstrate an adequate understanding of all subjects taught. Candidates shall be evaluated by the standards set forth in [Departmental General Order B-20, DEPARTMENTAL TRAINING PROGRAM](#).
 - 2. Inability to demonstrate adequate proficiency in, or knowledge of, any training subject or any exhibition of unsatisfactory attitude or behavior shall be sufficient cause for discharge from the program.
- C. Completion of the entire basic training program and a satisfactory joint evaluation by the Reserve Coordinator and a supervisory reserve officer shall be a prerequisite to appointment as a reserve officer. All candidates must complete the reserve academy training program prior to any routine assignment requiring the carrying of a

weapon or effecting arrests, except as part of a formal field training program.

- D. Prior to appointment, each successful candidate for Level III shall be furnished with a complete Departmental uniform. Level I and Level II reserve officer candidates shall be furnished with a complete Departmental uniform and the required safety equipment, as set forth in Departmental General Orders C-1, UNIFORMS, and C-4, SAFETY EQUIPMENT. All uniforms and equipment shall remain the property of the Department and shall be returned upon termination of services. Equipment and uniforms for the reserve officers, except for stars and patches, are identical to full-time officers.
- E. All reserve officers shall receive in-service training equivalent to that statutorily required for full-time officers and shall be trained in use of force policies and tested for firearms proficiency in accordance with the provisions of [Departmental General Order B-12, FIREARMS RANGE PROGRAM](#), Part III, F.

V. RESERVE OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Reserve officers may be assigned as follows:
 - 1. Level I reserve officers (As defined by California Penal Code Sections, 830.6(a)(1), and 832.6(a)(1)).
 - a. As single-officer reserve units.
 - b. As the second officer in a beat or tactical unit.
 - c. As two-officer reserve units.
 - d. A field unit staffed only by reservists shall not be dispatched as the primary unit responsible for reporting and investigating a felony crime unless specifically so authorized by the watch commander.
 - e. As crowd and traffic control officers at special events.
 - 2. Level II reserve officers (As defined by California Penal Code Section 832.6(a)(2)) may only be assigned as a second officer in a beat or tactical unit under the immediate

supervision of a regular member, or, without immediate supervision, to those limited duties that are authorized for Level III reserve officers.

3. Level III reserve officers (As defined by California Penal Code Section 832.6(a)(3)) may perform any duties that do not require general law enforcement powers in their routine performance. Those limited duties shall include traffic control, security at parades and sporting events, report taking, evidence transportation, parking enforcement, and other duties that are not likely to result in physical arrests. Level III reserve officers while assigned these duties shall be supervised in the accessible vicinity by a Level I reserve officer or a full-time, regular peace officer employed by a law enforcement agency authorized to have reserve officers. Level III reserve officers may transport prisoners without immediate supervision.
- B. Reserve officers shall only have peace officer powers during the duration of their specific duty assignment. At the conclusion of each tour of duty or special event assignment, or whenever relieved by competent authority, reserve officers shall assume civilian status pending the next authorized assignment.
 - C. When assigned to any duty requiring reserve officer status at any level, a reserve officer is considered an employee of the City of Oakland. On-duty reserve officers are entitled to the same rights and immunities provided to the functions of full-time officers and are subject to the same restrictions.

By order of



Richard L. Word
Chief of Police

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