

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

January 4, 2023

1.14

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: PROHIBITION OF ALCOHOL IMPAIRMENT WHEN CARRYING OR HANDLING FIREARMS OFF-DUTY – ESTABLISHED

RECOMMENDED ACTION

That the Board of Police Commissioners REVIEW and APPROVE the proposed policy prohibiting sworn personnel from being impaired when carrying or handling firearms off-duty.

DISCUSSION

The Department recognizes and affirms that public trust is crucial to its function and daily mission. Department personnel are conspicuous representatives of government, whose conduct is closely scrutinized. When an employee's actions are found to be excessive, unwarranted or unjustified, their conduct reflects directly upon the Department. In addition, an employee's good judgment and physical skill in handling a firearm can oftentimes be greatly diminished by intoxication, which can jeopardize public safety as well as the safety of our employees and their loved ones. Although the Department has various policies in place that govern an employee's conduct while off-duty, the purpose of this Order is to establish specific policy as it pertains to the carrying/handling of a firearm off-duty when impaired.

This policy adds Section 3/610.93, *Prohibition of Alcohol Impairment When Carrying or Handling Firearms Off-Duty*, to the Department Manual.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Director Lizabeth Rhodes, Office of Constitutional Policing and Policy, at (213) 486-8730.

Respectfully,



MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

Attachments

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

SPECIAL ORDER NO.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS ON

SUBJECT: PROHIBITION OF ALCOHOL IMPAIRMENT WHEN CARRYING OR HANDLING FIREARMS OFF-DUTY – ESTABLISHED

PURPOSE: The Department recognizes and affirms that public trust is crucial to its function and daily mission. Department personnel are conspicuous representatives of government, whose conduct is closely scrutinized. When an employee's actions are found to be excessive, unwarranted or unjustified, their conduct reflects directly upon the Department. In addition, an employee's good judgment and physical skill in handling a firearm can oftentimes be greatly diminished by intoxication. In turn, this can jeopardize public safety as well as the safety of our employees, their families and loved ones. Although the Department has various policies in place that govern an employee's conduct while off-duty, the purpose of this Order is to establish specific policy as it pertains to the carrying/handling of a firearm off-duty while impaired.

PROCEDURE: Department Manual Section 3/610.93 – *Prohibition of Alcohol Impairment When Carrying or Handling Firearms Off-Duty*, has been established. Attached is the established Department Manual section.

AMENDMENTS: This Order adds Section 3/610.93 to the Department Manual.

AUDIT RESPONSIBILITY: The Commanding Officer, Audit Division, shall review this directive and determine whether an audit or inspection shall be conducted in accordance with Department Manual Section 0/080.30.



MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION "D"

DEPARTMENT MANUAL
VOLUME III
Revised by Special Order No. , 2023

610.93 PROHIBITION OF ALCOHOL IMPAIRMENT WHEN CARRYING OR HANDLING FIREARMS OFF-DUTY. Sworn personnel carrying or handling any firearm while off-duty shall not consume alcoholic beverages to the extent in which it causes impairment. In addition, sworn personnel shall not be impaired when carrying or handling any firearm.

For the evaluation of impairment, only those personnel who exhibit objective symptoms of being under the influence of alcohol, or where there is reasonable and articulable suspicion that the employee has consumed an alcoholic beverage, shall be required to submit to testing.

Should a sworn employee be required to test for impairment, a blood alcohol content of 0.04 or above shall be a violation of this policy. The Department will comply with all aspects of the current Department policy and agreement in MOU 24 regarding substance testing.