

Oath of Office

102.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that oaths, when appropriate, are administered to department members.

102.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Atlantic Beach Police Department that, when appropriate, department members affirm the oath of their office as an expression of commitment to the constitutional rights of those served by the Department and the dedication of its members to their duties.

102.3 OATH OF OFFICE

All department members, when appropriate, shall take and subscribe to the oaths or affirmations applicable to their positions (S.C. Const., art. III, §26).

The form of the oath should be as follows:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am duly qualified, according to the Constitution of this State, to exercise the duties of the office to which I have been appointed, and that I will, to the best of my ability, discharge the duties thereof, and preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of this State and of the United States. So help me God."

If a member is opposed to taking an oath, he/she shall be permitted to substitute the word "affirm" for the word "swear", and the words "so help me God" may be omitted.

102.4 MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

The oath of office shall be filed as prescribed by law (S.C. Code § 23-11-20; S.C. Code § 23-7-30; S.C. Code § 23-13-20; S.C. Code § 23-28-20).