

## CODE OF ETHICS

As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community, to safeguard lives and property, to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder, and to respect the Constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality, and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner, which does not bring discredit to the Putnam County Sheriff's Office or myself. Will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule, develop self-restraint, and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws and the regulations of my office. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I fully understand that as a deputy sheriff, my conduct in both my private and official life are held at a much greater standard than that of an ordinary citizen of Putnam County, and the State of Ohio, and that I must maintain the highest degree of moral integrity. I fully recognize that as a deputy sheriff my conduct in my private life may reflect back on the image of the Putnam County Sheriff's Office and that I am held at the highest standard for those actions.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will never engage in acts of bribery nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.

I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence. I alone am responsible for my knowledge and adherence to the Code of Ethics of the Putnam County Sheriff's Office.

I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession....Law Enforcement.

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Employee Signature.

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date