

College Operating Procedures (COP)



Procedure Title: Department of Public Safety
Procedure Number: 08-0807
Originating Department: Public Safety

Specific Authority:

Board Policy 6Hx6:1.01; 6Hx6:1.02; 6Hx6:7.03
Florida Statute 1001.64; 1001.65; 1012.88
Florida Administrative Code n/a

Procedure Actions: 5/1/09; 07/01/09

Purpose Statement: The department provides sworn (campus police) and non-sworn (security) public safety personnel for all of our campuses.

Guidelines:

The mission of the Department is as follows:

- To serve and safeguard all students, faculty, staff and visitors on the campus of Florida SouthWestern State College through the effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement and public safety services;
- We will be sensitive to the authority we are entrusted with to ensure that it is consistent with our responsibility to protect the public with fairness and equality;
- We strive to provide optimum services by maximizing our resources in a cost effective manner;
- Understanding that human resources represent our community's single largest and most important investment, we must recruit and retain individuals who are highly motivated and committed to excellence in our profession. We shall enhance the skills of our personnel to ensure professionalism while creating an atmosphere of job satisfaction, enthusiasm, security and personal career development; and

Our driving force is professional and personal commitment to provide the campus community and all its citizens with the highest levels of service in response to their changing needs by promoting justice, loyalty, dedication and integrity, to the public we serve.

The department is a part of the College which exists for the purpose of providing an education to the student of the College and to which it is accountable. Accountability means being responsive to the problems and needs of the community as well as managing resources in the most cost-effective manner.

Florida Statutes §1012.88 Provides the following:

- (1) Each community college is permitted and empowered to employ police officers for the community college, who must be designated community college police.
- (2) Each community college police officer is a law enforcement officer of the state and a conservator of the peace who has the authority to arrest, in accordance with the laws of this state, any person for a violation of state law or applicable county or municipal ordinance if that violation occurs on or in any property or facilities of the community college by which he or she is employed or any property or facilities of a direct-support organization of such community college. A community college police officer may also arrest a person off campus for a violation committed on campus after a hot pursuit of that person that began on any such property or facilities. A community college police officer may bear arms in the performance of his or her duties and carry out a search pursuant to a search warrant on the campus where he or she is employed. Community college police, upon request of the sheriff or local police authority, may serve subpoenas or other legal process and may make arrests of persons against whom arrest warrants have been issued or against whom charges have been made for violations of federal or state laws or county or municipal ordinances.
- (3) Community college police shall promptly deliver all persons arrested and charged with felonies to the sheriff of the county within which the community college is located and all persons arrested and charged with misdemeanors to the applicable authority as provided by law, but otherwise to the sheriff of the county in which the community college is located.
- (4) Community college police must meet the minimum standards established by the Police Standards and Training Commission of the Department of Law Enforcement and chapter 943 for law enforcement officers. Each community college police officer must, before entering into the performance of his or her duties, take the oath of office established by the community college. Each community college that employs police officers may obtain and approve a bond on each police officer, conditioned upon the officer's faithful performance of his or her duties, which bond must be payable to the Governor. The community college may determine the amount of the bond. In determining the amount of the bond, the community college may consider the amount of money or property likely to be in the custody of the officer at any one time. The community college shall provide a uniform set of identifying credentials to each community college police officer it employs.
- (5) In performance of any of the powers, duties, and functions authorized by law, community college police have the same rights, protections, and immunities afforded other law enforcement officers.
- (6) The community college, with the approval of the Department of Law Enforcement, shall adopt rules, including, without limitation, rules for the appointment, employment, and removal of community college police in accordance with the state Career Service System and shall establish in writing a policy manual, that includes, without limitation, procedures for managing

routine law enforcement situations and emergency law enforcement situations. The community college shall furnish a copy of the policy manual to each of the police officers it employs.

Procedures:

- I. Florida SouthWestern State College of Public Safety creates and maintains a Department Manual of internal policy, procedure and rules and regulations. The manual will also contain specific statutes, as required, to implement and manage the department.
- II. Police Officers are armed and equipped with firearms, equipment and uniforms as authorized by department policy.