

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY

Licensing

- 1) Police departments within St. Louis County must utilize only two types of officers within their departments as part of their authorized staff:
 - a. Peace Officers: A law enforcement officer of the state or any political subdivision of the state with the power of arrest for a violation of the criminal code or declared or deemed to be a peace officer by state statute as defined by Missouri Statute 590.020. Departments employing peace officers must demonstrate that all officers have graduated from a Police Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T)-approved training center with a Class-A license or have been granted a Class-A license from a P.O.S.T. Peace officers meeting the Class-A qualifications may engage in primary law enforcement activities such as call response, arrest, detention, vehicular pursuit, vehicle detention, search, interrogations and any other activities that would involve the restriction of a citizen's freedom.
 - b. Reserve Peace Officers: A reserve peace officer is an officer who regularly works less than full time on a voluntary basis. Former peace officers with a valid Class-A license may work as a reserve peace officer within St. Louis County. Other than possessing a valid Class-A license, reserve peace officers in St. Louis County must possess the certification to serve as reserve officers as mandated in Missouri Revised Statute 590.040. Without certification, the reserve peace officer must be under the direct and immediate accompaniment of a certified peace officer of the same agency at all times while on duty. Reserve peace officers shall wear badges, patches and insignia that are distinguishable from peace officers by displaying the word "reserve" on the items.

No later than January 30 of each year, police departments must submit a list of peace officers and reserve peace officers who worked for the departments during the previous calendar year to the St. Louis County Executive.

Training

- 2) All police departments within St. Louis County must demonstrate each officer's compliance with the P.O.S.T. continuing education requirement as mandated by CSR 75-15.010 by providing an itemized list of training for each peace officer and reserve peace officer working for those departments to the St. Louis County Executive for review and inspection. No later than January 30 of each year, police departments must submit the training records for the previous calendar year to the St. Louis County Executive.

Hiring

- 3) Police departments within St. Louis County must conduct background investigations on all newly hired peace officers and reserve peace officers. The investigation shall include a psychological examination by a licensed clinical psychologist, a thorough review of the officer's character, integrity and prior criminal history conducted by a background investigator and a drug screening.
- 4) Police departments must notify the Missouri Department of Public Safety Director within thirty days of the hiring or separation of a peace officer or reserve peace officer as mandated by Missouri Statute 590.070.

Accountability

- 5) Police departments providing police services within St. Louis County must operate 24 hours a day, providing police services with at least one officer on duty with the primary duty of responding to emergency calls for service from the public and a separate on-duty supervisor whose primary duty is not responding to emergency calls for service from the public and who, at the request of an officer, is able to respond to a scene in the capacity of a supervisor.
- 6) Police departments within St. Louis County shall have a policy for uses of force, vehicle pursuits, vehicle accidents involving an officer, firearm discharges, lawsuits and complaints. The policy shall require that records of these events are kept for a minimum of three years and are available for inspection and review. Police departments within St. Louis County must have a reporting and tracking system for uses of force, vehicle pursuits, lawsuits, complaints and internal affairs investigations, commonly known as an early-warning system. For uses of force, vehicle pursuits and firearm discharges for other than non-domesticated animals, a supervisor shall respond to the scene to conduct an investigation.
- 7) Police departments within St. Louis County must have a policy and the infrastructure for the intake, investigation and processing of citizen complaints at any given time. Departments shall take complaints of an anonymous nature.
- 8) Police departments within St. Louis County must have a policy that prohibits citizen contacts and/or detention based solely on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, disability, handicap or health related conditions or economic level. All investigative detentions, traffic stops, arrests, searches and seizures of property by commissioned police officers will be based on a standard of "reasonable suspicion" or "probable cause" as required by the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution and statutory authority.

Transparency

- 9) Police departments within St. Louis County must maintain compliance with Missouri Statute 590.650 by reporting traffic stop information on an annual basis to the Missouri Attorney General's Office.
- 10) Police departments within St. Louis County must annually report crime data to the State of Missouri for Uniform Crime Reports.
- 11) Police departments within St. Louis County must have the ability to accept and bond-out prisoners, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Departments may not keep a warrant active because of the inability to process a prisoner.
- 12) Police departments within St. Louis County that enter into contractual agreements with other municipal governments must clearly define and publicly declare who assumes responsibility for workers compensation and tort liability.
- 13) Police departments may be subject to an auditing and review process upon reasonable cause and shall be subject to an auditing and review process upon entering into a service contract agreement with another municipal government or political jurisdiction. The audit and review will be conducted by the St. Louis County Executive or designee to demonstrate compliance and execution of the aforementioned standards.