

ORDINANCE O-09-12

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 24 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of South Harrison as the designated “Appropriate Authority” of the Township as required by N.J.S.A. 40A:14-118 as set forth under § 24-7 of Chapter 24 of the Code of the Township of South Harrison is authorized to establish policies of the Township of South Harrison consistent with New Jersey Statutes and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of South Harrison recognizes that the size of its Police Department and Force requires all members of the Department to actively engage in law enforcement duties and responsibilities reflecting the small but efficient operations of the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized in addition to those duties set forth under §24-8 of the Chief of Police that the Chief of Police should be a working Police Officer in addition to having responsibility for the administration of the Department and its day-to-day operations; and

WHEREAS, it is also required that the Township Committee establish, by broad policy, to establish appropriate meal break locations for all Officers to ensure that they are in close proximity to the Township line should an emergent call for service arise.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Committee of the Township of South Harrison, County of Gloucester and State of New Jersey that Chapter 24 of the South Harrison Township Code is hereby amended as follows:

Chapter 24

SECTION I

Chapter 24, Article II, §24-8 is hereby amended to add a subsection (F) which shall read as follows:

(F) Supervise and be responsible for the activities of field or headquarters' personnel, oversee and take part in police activities intended to provide order, maintenance, assistance and protection for persons and property, observance of law, and the protection and apprehension of law violators including, but not limited to, the following specific duties:

- (1) Assign and instruct subordinates in police methods and procedures, investigation practices, and related law enforcement problems and providing training as needed;
- (2) Direct criminal and non-criminal investigations, make investigations regarding improper police services or actions;
- (3) Supervise technical aspects of police operations;
- (4) When necessary, take proper police action against law violators;
- (5) Visit and inspect patrol units, assignments, and posts – noting, correcting or reporting any conditions which require police attention;
- (6) Direct and prepare reports and maintain all necessary reports and records and perform related work as required;
- (7) Patrol designated areas to prevent crime thereby providing protection for persons and property and to ensure observance of law and apprehend law breakers and to provide assistance to persons as necessary;
- (8) Exercise authority consistent with the obligations imposed by his/her Oath of Office in conformance with policies of the Department;
- (9) Shall, as with other Police Officers within the Department, be charged with enforcement of all provisions of local and State traffic codes, the failure to take appropriate action would be considered a neglect of duty;
- (10) When engaged in motorized patrol, pay strict attention to all regular radio transmission, acknowledge said transmissions and immediately contact dispatch of his/her response;
- (11) Shall conduct thorough investigations and report clearly and concisely all facts considering incidents or crimes which occur and of which he/she has knowledge during a tour of duty or which he/she may observe or become involved while off duty;
- (12) Serve as back up officer to other officers within the Police Department and surrounding municipalities as may be needed;

- (13) To cover any shift or portion of a shift when, through scheduling, emergent absence of other officers, or for appropriate staffing needs, the need may arise;
- (14) To keep a Daily Log as to all patrol and supervision duties performed for each day or shift worked by the Chief of Police;
- (15) Provide in the form of a monthly report with attached Daily Logs (appropriately redacted for law enforcement security reasons) all patrol and supervision duties performed by the Chief of Police, the number of car stops made, summonses issued, arrests made, and the back up of other officers performed;
- (16) Appear in Municipal or Superior Court for all court appearances as may be required.

SECTION II

Article II of Chapter 24 is hereby amended to add §24-12A which will be as follows:

§24-12 (A). Meal Break Policy.

Members of the Township of South Harrison Police Department shall be permitted, consistent with Rules and Regulations of the Department, to take appropriate meal breaks during a tour of duty. In order to ensure that Police Officers can timely respond to calls for service or when dispatched by Gloucester County Communications no Officer, except for an appropriate law enforcement purpose, shall take any meal break outside of the Township of South Harrison. Except, however, in recognition of the fact that the Township of South Harrison has limited dining opportunities, that said meal break may be taken in the Township of Harrison in the Mullica Hill section of Harrison Township which is in close proximity of the township boundary of South Harrison Township.

SECTION III

The Chief of Police shall, within twenty (20) days of the adoption of the amendments to Chapter 24 as set forth in this Ordinance, develop Rules and Regulations which shall serve as amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the South Harrison Township Police Department. Said amendments to the Rules and Regulations shall be presented by the Chief of Police to the appropriate Authority which can then be duly adopted by the Township Committee.

SECTION IV

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately. Should any portion of this Ordinance be deemed void by any court, the balance of the Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. Any portion of the current Code and Ordinance of the Township of South Harrison that is inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby deemed null and void, and of no force and effect.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage, adoption and publication as provided by law. If it is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction that any provision or section of this Ordinance is unconstitutional, all other sections and provisions shall remain in effect.

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HARRISON:

Robert S. Campbell, Mayor

ATTEST:

Nancy F. Kearns, RMC
Municipal Clerk

CERTIFICATION

This Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular meeting at the South Harrison Township Committee held on the 23rd^h day of September, 2009 and will be considered for final passage and adoption at a meeting to be held on the 14th day of October, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the South Harrison Township Municipal Building, 664 Harrisonville Road, Harrisonville, New Jersey 08039, at which time any person interested herein will be given an opportunity to be heard.

Nancy E. Kearns, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Information

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