

Chapter 19

**POLICE DEPARTMENT\***

**Art. I.**           **In General, §§ 19-1—19-20**  
**Art. II.**           **Chief of Police, §§ 19-21—19-29**

**ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

**Sec. 19-1. Composition.**

The police department shall consist of a chief of police and the following assistants:

- (a) Six (6) captains.
- (b) Twelve (12) lieutenants.
- (c) Nineteen (19) sergeants, except that one (1) additional sergeant may be appointed for such period of time as the city is funded with a Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies Program under title IV of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, awarded by the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, and which grant by its terms requires supervision by a sergeant.
- (d) Such number of regular police officers as the mayor shall from time to time appoint.

None of the assistants of the chief of police as named above shall be increased in number except by ordinance duly enacted by the city council.

(Code 1965, § 19-1; Ord. No. D411, 7-31-97; Ord. No. D434, 3-11-99)

**Sec. 19-2. Special police officers.**

(a) The mayor, subject to confirmation by the city council, shall from time to time appoint, upon recommendation of the chief of

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\***Cross references**—Administration, Ch. 2; employee classification and compensation plan, benefits, etc., § 2-126 et seq.; burglar, etc., alarms, Ch. 4.5.

**State law references**—Police generally, G.L. c. 147; powers and duties of police, G.L. c. 41, § 98 et seq.

police, such number of special police officers as he shall deem proper. Such appointments shall expire on the fourth Monday of January succeeding the date of appointment.

(b) All special police officers shall be subject to the authority of the chief of police and may be assigned by him for duty and, when so assigned, they shall have all the powers and duties of regular police officers; provided, that unless assigned for police duty by the chief of police, no special police officer shall have such powers and duties. They shall devote as much of their time to the services of the city as the chief of police shall require, but shall not be entitled to pay from the city when not engaged in rendering service to the city. No special police officer shall exercise the power or authority of a police officer of the city for any private organization, corporation or individual unless he has first been assigned by the chief of police for duty for such organization, corporation or individual.

(Code 1965, § 19-2)

**Sec. 19-3. Aiding fire department.**

The members of the police department shall, in such manner as the fire chief of the fire department may direct, aid the fire department by giving alarms in case of fire, by clearing the streets or grounds in the immediate vicinity of the fire, or performing other police service, so that the members of the fire department will not be hindered or obstructed in the performance of their duties.

(Code 1965, § 19-4)

**Sec. 19-4. Taking notice of obstructions, etc.**

The chief of police or his designee shall take notice of all unlawful obstructions and of nuisances and defects in the streets or public places of the city and shall take all proper actions in relation thereto.

(Code 1965, § 19-10)

**Sec. 19-5. Authority of mayor and chief of police to order extra duty in case of riots and other emergencies.**

In case of a riot, conflagration or other extreme emergency, the mayor or chief of police shall have full authority to summon and keep on duty any members of the police department, while such riot, conflagration or other extreme emergency shall continue.

(Code 1965, § 19-8)

**Sec. 19-6. Designation of inspector of claims.**

The mayor may, with the consent of the city council, designate a member of the police department to make such investigations as the city solicitor shall require in the preparation and trial of civil causes in which the city shall be a party. The inspector shall

receive no additional compensation for any service rendered under this section.

(Code 1965, § 2-50)

**Secs. 19-7—19-20. Reserved.**

## **ARTICLE II. CHIEF OF POLICE**

### **Sec. 19-21. Generally.**

The chief of police shall be the chief executive officer of the police department, and shall, except as provided in section 19-29, have entire control of his assistants, regular police officers, members of the reserve police force, and the special officers when the same are assigned to duty, as provided in section 19-2.

(Code 1965, § 19-9)

### **Sec. 19-22. Powers and duties generally.**

(a) The chief of police shall devote his time to the maintenance and preservation of the peace, order and cleanliness of the city. He shall aid in the enforcement of special laws relating to the city, and these Revised Ordinances and other ordinances of the city. He shall enforce all orders of the mayor and city council relating to the business and duties pertaining to the police department and public places of the city or take all proper action in relation thereto.

(b) He shall have general charge of all rooms and buildings belonging to the police department, and shall make his headquarters at the central police station. He shall require the officers to report to the officer in charge at their respective stations at least once in each day that they are on duty, and shall then communicate to them such orders and instructions as he may deem proper.

(Code 1965, § 19-10)

### **Sec. 19-23. Presentation of bills for approval.**

The chief of police shall present all bills against the police department to the city auditor.

(Code 1965, § 19-11)

**Sec. 19-24. Preparation of payroll.**

The chief of police shall prepare a payroll of the police officers, and present the same to the city auditor.  
(Code 1965, § 19-16)

**Sec. 19-25. Records.**

The chief of police shall cause to be kept full and complete records of the business of the police department. He shall keep a record of the duties performed by each member of the police department, note all absences from duty and the causes of the same.  
(Code 1965, § 19-15)

**Sec. 19-26. Reports to mayor and city council.**

The chief of police shall report in writing to the mayor and city council in January of each year the condition and organization of the department, a synopsis of the business of the preceding year, together with such remarks and recommendations as he may think proper.  
(Code 1965, § 19-17)

**Sec. 19-27. Minimum fee for copies of accident reports.**

A minimum fee of three dollars (\$3.00) shall be charged by the chief of police for each copy of an accident report issued by him.  
(Code 1965, § 19-19)

**Sec. 19-28. Employment of other personnel.**

The chief of police may employ a radio technician, janitors and other persons as the mayor and city council may approve.  
(Code 1965, § 19-12)

**Sec. 19-29. Rules and regulations.**

The chief of police may establish rules and regulations for the government of the police department; such rules and regulations shall be subject to the approval of the mayor and city council.  
(Code 1965, § 19-12)

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