

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
TOWNSHIP OF LAKEWOOD

PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS
AND CONDUCT POLICY

The Board of Fire Commissioners recognizes the importance of the public to have faith and confidence in those individuals holding positions wherein they are entrusted with public property and the health, safety and welfare of the community at large. As the Board employs the services of volunteer firefighters who are members of the Fire Department authorized to service the District to fulfill its mandated charge to provide fire prevention, protection, suppression and other related and incidental fire services and functions within the District, it finds and determines that the selection, control and supervision of the volunteer staff is critical to not only the quasi-military operation of the fire service, but also the professionalism and standard of service the public demands and deserves. The Board further finds and determines that the character and conduct of its volunteer staff is directly related to the confidence of the public. The Board expects its volunteer staff to conduct official duties in a manner that serves the public interest, upholds the public trust and protects the District's property and resources. To that end, the Board shall develop, at a minimum, standards for membership qualifications, obedience to orders, code of conduct, professional relationship and other necessary and proper regulatory directives to maintain a high standard of service and trust. The purpose of the standards that will be adopted in furtherance of this Policy have an element of control but most importantly are intended to communicate to personnel what is expected of them.

The Board shall enact rules and regulations, procedures or guidelines and directives to implement or otherwise effectuate the purpose and intent of this Policy and federal, state and local laws, and rules, regulations, procedures, guidelines or directives promulgated thereto, as amended, which were enacted to insure or supplement the intent and purpose of this Policy. Said rules and regulations, procedures or guidelines and directives may be amended or supplemented by the Board as it deems necessary.

This Policy does not modify existing Board policies, procedures, guidelines, rules, regulations or directives and shall be read and construed in conjunction with other Board policies, procedures, guidelines, rules, regulations or directives so that any inconsistencies or ambiguities in this Policy may be resolved by referencing other Board policies, procedures, guidelines, rules, regulations or directives. Any interpretation as to the meaning of this Policy shall not be contrary to federal, state or local laws, or contrary to or inconsistent with the mandated charge of the Board.

If any provision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase set forth in this Policy is for any reason held or determined to be unconstitutional or invalid, same shall not affect the remainder of this Policy.

Legal References:

1st Reading: May 8, 2017

Effective Date: June 12, 2017

2nd Reading: June 12, 2017

Revised Date: