



**KNOXVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**



General Order No. 1.32

Subject: Conflict of Interest	Effective Date: July 1, 1997	Revised Date: June 5, 2020
Title: Actions That Constitute A Conflict of Interest	Pages: 3	Distribution: All Members
Cross Reference: Code of Conduct Knoxville City Code, Sec. 1-17 Knoxville City code, Sec. 2-1047 thru Sec. 2-1054	Chief of Police Approval:	

Purpose

The purpose of this directive is to establish guidelines involving department members' actions to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest.

This directive shall consist of the following sections:

- I. General Provisions
- II. On-Duty Conflicts of Interest
- III. Off-Duty and Extra-Duty Employment Conflicts of Interest

I. General Provisions

Department employees are expected to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest, both in their on-duty actions and in any personal endeavors they may choose to pursue.

II. On-Duty Conflicts of Interest

A. General

1. Department employees are specifically reminded that referring any person having official business with the Department to a specific attorney, wrecker company, bail bondsman or any other private business is unprofessional and is prohibited.
2. Department employees shall not buy anything from or sell anything to any complainant, suspect, witness, defendant, prisoner, or other person involved in any case which has come to their attention through their employment with the Department. This does not prohibit members from dealing with legitimate places of business.
3. Department employees shall adhere to Knoxville Police Department Code of Conduct 1.14 entitled, "Gifts, Gratuities, Bribes, or Rewards".
4. Department employees shall adhere to City of Knoxville Code, Sec. 1-17 and Sec. 2-1047 through Sec. 2-1054, regarding conduct and conflict of interest.

B. Investigations

1. Department employees shall not be directly involved in any departmental investigation in which the member is either the victim or complainant. This includes investigations regarding members of an officer's family where they may be the victim, complainant, or suspect.
2. Department employees shall not be directly involved in any departmental investigation regarding a business concern in which the employee is employed in an off-duty or extra-duty status or has an interest/ownership unless approval is obtained in writing from the Chief of Police or his designee.
3. A supervisor shall not direct a subordinate to complete an offense

report, or any other report, that relates to damage, theft, abuse, or other damage regardless of the cause of the damage that involves the supervisor, his family or related in any manner. If a report is required, the District Commander shall be notified and will assign an officer to make the necessary report(s).

4. Investigations of incidents involving a police department employee cannot be investigated by that employee. Investigation includes the writing and filing of a report, investigating the incident, serving warrants or notice or other papers, making an arrest, etc.

III. Off-Duty and Extra-Duty Employment

- A. Department employees may engage in employment that presents no potential conflict of interest between their duties as a police officer (or civilian employee) and their duties for their secondary employer. Specific conflicts of interest are listed in General Order 1.7 entitled "Secondary Employment".
- B. Department employees will not engage in employment that constitutes a threat to the status or dignity of the police as a professional occupation. Specific examples of employment presenting a threat to the status or dignity of the police profession are found in General Order 1.7 entitled "Secondary Employment".