

**TEXARKANA, TEXAS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
GENERAL ORDERS MANUAL**

<i>Effective Date</i> <b>February 1, 2008</b>		<i>Amended Date</i>		<i>Directive</i> <b>2.17.1</b>	
<i>Subject</i> <b>Individual Rights</b>					
<i>Reference</i>					
<i>Distribution</i> <b>All Personnel City Manager City Attorney</b>		<i>TPCA Best Practices Recognition Program Reference</i>  <b>2.17.1 Individual Rights</b>		<i>Review Date</i>  <b>January 1, 2017</b>	
<i>Pages</i> <b>1</b>					

**This Operations Directive is for internal use only and does not enhance an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as a creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this Operations Directive, if proven, may only form the basis for a complaint by this Department, and only in a non-judicial administrative setting.**

**SECTION 1 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines to ensure that every member of the Department acts in a manner to protect the rights and liberties of all persons.

**SECTION 2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Texarkana, Texas Police Department to respect and uphold the rights of every individual. The U.S. Constitution guarantees every citizen certain safeguards from government interference. Consequently, these safeguards place legal limitations regarding police authority. The Department strives to ensure that the constitutional rights of all persons are protected and that no department employee will engage in discrimination, oppression, or favoritism. This Department does not endorse, train, teach, support, or condone any type of bias, stereotyping, racial discrimination, or preferential treatment by its officers. Police officers shall adhere to established policies and procedures, as well as state and federal laws, the U.S. Constitution, and U.S. Supreme Court rulings.

**SECTION 3 PROCEDURES**

- A. All employees will provide all people within this community fair and impartial police services consistent with constitutional and statutory mandates.
- B. Assure the highest standard of integrity and ethics among all our members.
- C. Respect the diversity and the lawful cultural differences of all people.
- D. All Department employees are required to whenever possible prevent, report, and eliminate any occurrences of discrimination, oppression, or favoritism by any member of the Department.

**E. RESPONSIBILITY**

- 1. All members of the Department shall know and comply with all aspects of this directive.
- 2. All Division Commanders and supervisory personnel are responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions and intent of this directive.