



Detroit Police Department

TRAINING & INFORMATION

BULLETIN

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Commissioner

This bulletin shall be used for the general dissemination of information concerning Dept. procedures, news items, and training data.

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TOTAL ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW

It is unfortunate that the advantages of the basic constitutional rights appear to provoke a rise in crime and allow criminals their freedom. Police officers, in taking their oath, affirm to uphold this tenet and must do so. Bulletins 31 and 32 spell out to the police officer the basic rules of thumb that he must follow. However, it must be understood that Law Enforcement is not solely the responsibility of the Police Department. This responsibility is shared equally by the Police Department, the Prosecutor's Office, the Courts, the Probation Department, the Prisons, the Parole Board, the Parole Officer and the Community. Each of the aforementioned do, and must, supplement each other as they all represent the whole of JUSTICE, both to the criminal and the community.

The police officer occupies the most unique position of all mentioned in that his actions must be spontaneous and he is held responsible for each action. He makes the initial contact and receives more attention, both good and bad, from the public. The police officer bears the responsibility of forming public opinion in regards to law enforcement, almost alone. This is the reason that Justice, in most instances, is portrayed by the image projected to the public by the police officer. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that the police officer is usually the public's concept of JUSTICE representing that of the whole.

For a certainty, if the police officer's image is this important, then he must grasp clearly and realistically, a concept of pride and confidence in himself... the Department... and a progressive future.

A police officer must in every instance take some action against any violation of the law, regardless of race, color, creed or status of the person involved. There must be a TOTAL ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW. He must do so with a professional attitude, never forgetting that he represents the total picture of JUSTICE in the eyes of the community. There must be an understanding of the profound influence of his actions while performing his duties. These actions are the communications of the Police Department with the public.

A police officer in order to give total enforcement of the law must be soundly instructed in the tools of his occupation... laws and procedures. He must be technically capable and skilled in the practice of his chosen profession. These things can be a deterrent to crime, and bring into being a better police department.