



## Police & Fire Commission Code of Ethics

The Police and Fire Commission of the City of Whitewater serves in the role of public servants overseeing the Whitewater Police, and Fire & Rescue Departments. We have been entrusted by the community, University and City to conduct our work in a professional, fair and impartial manner. We nurture this trust through a firm commitment to the public good, public safety, and to the ethical and professional standards described herein.

### **Personal Integrity**

We will demonstrate in words and actions personally and in the role as commissioners, the highest standards of personal integrity, commitment, truthfulness, and fortitude in order to inspire trust among our stakeholders, and to set an example for others including employees of the departments.

Commissioners will conduct ourselves in a fair and impartial manner and recuse ourselves or personnel within the departments when significant conflict of interest arises. We will not accept gifts, gratuities or favors that could compromise our impartiality.

At all times, we will place our obligation to the community, duty to uphold the law and to the goals and objectives of the departments above our personal self-interests.

### **Independent and Thorough Oversight**

Hear complaints, reports, and evaluations with diligence, an open and questioning minds, objectivity and a sense of fairness. Rigorously inquire to the accuracy and reliability of information from all sources. Present the facts and findings without regard to personal beliefs or concern for personal, professional or political consequences.

### **Transparency and Confidentiality**

Conduct meetings and activities openly and transparently as required by law and ordinance. Provide explanations of our procedures and practices to as wide an audience as possible. Maintain the confidentiality of information that cannot be disclosed and protect the security of confidential records.

### **Respectful and Unbiased Treatment**

Treat all individuals with dignity and respect, and without preference or discrimination including but not limited to protected classes: age, ethnicity, culture, race, disability, gender, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status or political beliefs.

### **Department Accreditation and Policy Review**

Support continuous improvement in the effectiveness and services provided to the City of Whitewater and its residents. Gauge our effectiveness through evaluation and analysis of the departments as well as Commission policies and procedures with public expectations and accountability in mind.

**Professional Excellence**

Commissioners will seek professional development to ensure their competency in serving in the roll and complete professional training annually. We will acquire the necessary knowledge and understanding of the policies, procedures, and practices of the departments we oversee.

We will keep ourselves aware of current legal, professional and social issues that affect the city of Whitewater and surrounding communities, as well as the departments we oversee.

The spirit of these ethical and professional standards guide the Commission in adapting to individual circumstances, and in promoting public trust, integrity and transparency.

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Signature

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Name

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Date