PURPOSE: The purpose of this directive is to establish a canon of ethical behavior of which all employees are expected and required to abide.

POLICY: It is the policy of the Lakeland Police Department that all members shall abide by the code of ethics provided in the City’s Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual. All sworn officers of the department shall also abide by the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics which has been adopted by the Lakeland Police Department. [CALEA 1.1.2]

3-2.1 LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS

Sworn members of the Department will abide by the Law Enforcement Officer’s Code of Ethics.

As a Law Enforcement Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation; the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or to my agency. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed both in my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature, or that is confided to me in my official capacity, will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by
other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.

I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence.

I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession...law enforcement.

3-2.2 TRAINING

A. All new employees of the Lakeland Police Department will receive mandatory ethics training during the City of Lakeland’s new member orientation.

B. All members of the Department shall receive ethics training biennially. [CALEA 1.1.2]

BY ORDER OF:

LISA WOMACK
CHIEF OF POLICE