


PBP FORM 290  PITTSBURGH BUREAU OF POLICE <i>"...honor, integrity, courage, respect, and compassion."</i>		SUBJECT: ORDERS		ORDER NUMBER: 16-2	
		PLEAC STANDARD: 1.4.2		PAGE 1 OF 2	
REVISE DATE: 2/28/2017	EFFECTIVE DATE: 3/19/2010	ANNUAL REVIEW DATE: FEBRUARY	RESCINDS: N/A	AMENDS: N/A	

1.0 POLICY/PURPOSE

- 1.1 Adherence to lawful orders in a law enforcement agency, as in military service, may be a matter of life or death. Even in less critical situations, it is necessary for procedures to be known and understood regarding following lawful orders.
- 1.2 The purpose of the policy is to provide direction to personnel regarding conflicting or unlawful orders.

2.0 LAWFUL ORDERS

- 2.1 Members shall promptly obey and execute any and all lawful orders of a supervisor. This shall include orders relayed from a supervisor by a member of the same or lesser rank.
 - 2.1.1 A lawful order is any order, in keeping with the performance of any duty, issued either verbally or written over the signature of the Chief of Police, Deputy Chief, any Assistant Chief, Commander, Lieutenant, or Sergeant, or any other supervisor prescribed by the various rules, regulations, and directives of the Bureau and necessary for the preservation of good order, efficiency, and proper discipline of the Bureau and its members.
 - 2.1.2 Generally, all orders should be relayed by a supervisor. If an officer receives an order from a supervisor that is relayed by another officer of the same rank as the receiving officer, the receiving officer shall carry out the order. When time and circumstances permit, the receiving officer shall confirm with the issuing supervisor that the order was carried out.

3.0 CONFLICTING ORDERS

- 3.1 Members who are given an order that is in conflict with a previous order or regulation shall respectfully call attention to such conflict.
- 3.2 If the supervisor giving the order does not alter or retract the conflicting order, then the last lawful order shall stand and, under those circumstances, the responsibility shall be the supervisor's.
 - 3.2.1 In such situations, the member obeying the conflicting order shall not be held responsible for the disobedience of any order issued.
- 3.3 When an order contrary to the provisions of any previous order, rule, regulation, or directive is given to a member, the member shall comply with the order unless it is a violation of the law, and shall thereafter submit a special through the chain of command to the Chief of Police and also send a copy directly to the Chief of Police, stating the facts and circumstances.

4.0 UNLAWFUL ORDERS

- 4.1 No member shall obey an order known to be contrary to federal law, state law, or City ordinance.
 - 4.1.1 The member shall respectfully inform the issuing officer of an order's illegality.
 - 4.1.2 If necessary a member of a rank superior to both the member and the issuing officer shall be consulted to resolve the matter.

5.0 INSUBORDINATION

Any officer who deliberately refuses to obey any lawful order given by a supervisor, shall be guilty of insubordination, and is in violation of this order.

Approved By:



Scott Schubert
Chief of Police