

City of Temple Terrace Police Department

Vision Statement

The Temple Terrace Police Department envisions a safer community where people experience a greater quality of life and a true sense of community resulting from reduced criminal activity due to enhanced police community partnerships.

Department's History



Officer A. P. DeMott, Temple Terrace's first police officer.

At a City Commission meeting on February 29, 1928, R. D. Hoyt, Commissioner and City Manager, explained that the City was in need of a policeman to be on full duty at night, and recommended that he be equipped with a bicycle and watchman's clock. A resolution passed at that meeting authorized the City Manager to employ such a watchman, and to equip him as recommended. The records show that, on March 8, 1928, A. P. DeMott took the oath of office as a policeman. From this humble beginning has developed one of the premier law enforcement agencies in the Tampa Bay area

Mission Statement

The mission of the Temple Terrace Police Department has been and will always be the maintenance of peace, reduction of crime, protection of lives and property, and professional service to the citizens of our community.

VALUES

This Mission Statement is built on values inherent to the Department.

We believe in:

HUMAN LIFE

We value human life and dignity above all else.

Therefore:

- We give first priority to situations which threaten life.
- We use force only when necessary.
- We treat all persons with courtesy and respect.
- We are compassionate and caring.

INTEGRITY

We believe integrity is the basis for community trust.

Therefore:

- We are honest and truthful.
- We are consistent in our beliefs and actions.
- We hold ourselves to high standards of moral and ethical conduct.
- We are role models for the community.

LAWS AND CONSTITUTION

We believe in the principles embodied in our Constitution. We recognize the authority of Federal, State and local laws.

Therefore:

- We respect and protect the rights of all citizens.
- We treat all persons fairly and without favoritism.
- We are knowledgeable of the law.
- We enforce the law.
- We obey the law.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We are accountable to each other and to the citizens we serve, who are the source of our authority.

Therefore:

- We communicate openly and honestly among ourselves and with the community.
- We understand the importance of community values and expectations.
- We are responsive to community concerns.
- We acknowledge our mistakes and are open to constructive criticism.
- We manage our resources effectively.
- We thoroughly investigate complaints against our employees.

COOPERATION

We believe that cooperation and teamwork will enable us to combine our diverse backgrounds, skills and styles to achieve common goals.

Therefore:

- We work as a team.
- We understand our role in achieving Department and community goals and objectives.
- We share our responsibility to serve the citizens of Temple Terrace with the many other agencies and organizations that make up the City.
- We strive to understand those who disagree with us.

- We seek the help and cooperation of others.
- We seek to resolve conflicts.
- We rely on community support and involvement.
- We work toward realistic, mutually agreed upon goals.

PROBLEM SOLVING

We are most effective when we help identify and solve community problems.

Therefore:

- We work to anticipate and prevent problems.
- We give a high priority to preventing crime and helping citizens feel safe.
- We actively seek opinions and ideas from others.
- We plan, analyze and evaluate.
- We recognize that crime is a community problem.
- We listen to problems and complaints with understanding and sensitivity.
- We seek innovative solutions.

EMPLOYEES (US)

We are capable, caring people who are doing important and satisfying work for the citizens of Temple Terrace.

Therefore:

- We respect, care about, trust and support each other.
- We enjoy our work and take pride in our accomplishments.
- We are disciplined and reliable.
- We keep our perspective and sense of humor.
- We balance our professional and personal lives.
- We consult the people who will be affected by our decisions.
- We have a positive, "can-do" attitude.
- We cultivate our best characteristics: Initiative, Enthusiasm, Creativity, Patience, Competence, Judgment.

EXCELLENCE

We strive for personal and professional excellence. Therefore:

- We do our best.
- We have a vision for the future.
- We seek adequate resources: staffing, facilities, equipment, training, salaries and benefits.
- We recruit and hire only the best people.
- We train and develop our employees to their highest potential.
- We are committed to fair and equitable personnel practices.
- We provide organizational mobility.
- We recognize and reward good performance.
- We support reasonable risk-taking and are tolerant of honest mistakes.
- We are receptive to new ideas and to change.

~~~ WE LEAD BY EXAMPLE ~~~