

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

GENERAL ORDER 0.13

REVISED DECEMBER 2020

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE, CODE OF HONOR, AND CODE OF ETHICS

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this general order (GO) memorializes a fundamental declaration that forms the basis of professional conduct.

2. BACKGROUND.
 - a. Oath of Allegiance: Pursuant to Section 3 of Article XX of the California Constitution, all employees of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) have taken an oath of allegiance affirming they will “. . . support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California . . .”. (Refer to Annex A.)

 - b. Code of Honor: All uniformed members of the CHP have sworn a pledge “To serve the United States of America and the State of California honestly, and conscientiously, and fulfill my oath as a soldier of the law.” (Refer to Annex B.)

 - c. Code of Ethics: The Code of Ethics is consistent with the Department’s value statement of respect for others, fairness, ethical practices, and equitable treatment for all and shall first be reviewed by cadets and administered while at the CHP Academy. Additional review shall be on an annual basis as part of the uniformed member’s annual evaluation. (Refer to Annex C.)

 - d. All declarations are valid for the entire duration of the employee’s state service, as long as the employee does not have a break in service caused by a permanent separation from state service.

3. COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES.
 - a. Area commanders shall ensure that all employees have received the STD. 689, Oath of Allegiance and Declaration of Permission to Work for Persons Employed by the State of California, when first employed with the CHP. Once the Oath is taken, commanders shall ensure it is signed on or before the effective date of appointment and before entering upon the duties of their employment and then sent forward to Human Resources Section, Personnel Transactions Unit, Attention: Personnel Specialist.

b. For uniformed employees, the Academy commander shall ensure that the Code of Honor and Code of Ethics were administered while the employee was a cadet at the CHP Academy and a copy is maintained in the officer's personnel file.

c. Area commanders shall ensure the meaning and the importance of adherence to the declarations found in this GO are conveyed to all employees during training and periodic discussions on the topic.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

ANNEXES A, B, C

OPI: 003

ANNEX A

STD. 689, OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND DECLARATION OF PERMISSION TO WORK FOR PERSONS EMPLOYED BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
OATH OF ALLEGIANCE AND DECLARATION OF PERMISSION TO WORK FOR PERSONS EMPLOYED BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STD. 689 (REV. 10/2019)

Oath may be administered by a person having general authority by law to administer oaths or may be administered by the appointing power, or by a person for whom written authorization to witness oaths has been executed by the appointing power. The appointing power maintains a file of such authorizations.

PART 1 OATH OF ALLEGIANCE
TO BE COMPLETED BY UNITED STATES CITIZENS ONLY

WHO MUST SIGN OATH - As required in Section 3 of Article XX of the Constitution of the State of California, every State employee except legally employed noncitizens, must sign the following oath or affirmation before he or she enters upon the duties of his or her State employment. Noncitizens are required to possess a Declaration of Permission to Work. If an alien employee becomes a naturalized citizen, an oath must then be obtained and filed.

WHEN OATH MUST BE SIGNED - As required in Government Code Sections 18153 and 3102, all public employees and all volunteers in any disaster council or emergency organization accredited by the Office of Emergency Services must sign an oath or affirmation before entering upon the duties of their employment. For intermittent, temporary or emergency employments, an oath or affirmation may, at the discretion of the employing agency, be effective for all successive periods of employment which commence within one calendar year from the date of the oath.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE (Type or print name of employee then complete Part 3.)

I Sue Smith, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

WHERE OATHS ARE FILED - As required in Government Code Sections 18153 and 3105, all oaths for public employees and all volunteers in any disaster council or emergency organization accredited by the Office of Emergency Services shall be filed in the official employee file within 30 days of the date the oath is executed. The oath is considered a public record.

FAILURE TO SIGN - As stated in Government Code Section 3107, no compensation or reimbursement for expenses incurred shall be paid to any public employee or any volunteer in any disaster council or emergency organization accredited by the Office of Emergency Services unless such public employee has taken and subscribed to the oath or affirmation.

PENALTIES (Government Code)
"3108. Every person who, while taking and subscribing to the oath or affirmation required by this chapter, states as true any material matter which he knows to be false, is guilty of perjury, and is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 of the Penal Code for two, three, or four years."

PART 2 DECLARATION OF PERMISSION TO WORK
TO BE COMPLETED BY LEGALLY EMPLOYED NONCITIZENS ONLY

I am a lawful permanent resident alien of the United States. YES NO
If **NO**, please read the following:
I hereby certify that I have permission to work in this country and have declared any restrictions placed upon me in this regard by the United States government to the appointing power.

PART 3 SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION (No fee may be charged for administering)
TO BE COMPLETED BY UNITED STATES CITIZENS AND LEGALLY EMPLOYED NONCITIZENS

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE <u>Sue Smith</u>	
STATE DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY California Highway Patrol	DIVISION/UNIT Personnel and Training Division
Taken and subscribed before me this <u>5th</u> day of <u>November</u> 2020	
AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL'S SIGNATURE <u>[Signature]</u>	
DIVISION/UNIT Personnel and Training Division	

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ANNEX B
CODE OF HONOR

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

CODE OF HONOR



"I, a member of the California Highway Patrol,
Subscribe in word and deed to the following:
To serve the United States of America and the State of California honestly,
And conscientiously, and fulfill my oath as a soldier of the law;
To uphold and maintain the honor and integrity of the California Highway Patrol;
Be loyal to my fellow officers; Respect and obey my seniors in rank,
And enforce the law without fear, favor, or discrimination;
Assist those in peril or distress, and if necessary,
Lay down my life rather than swerve from the path of duty;
My personal conduct shall, at all times, be above reproach
and I will never knowingly commit any act that will in any way
bring discredit upon the California Highway Patrol or any member thereof;
To all of this I do solemnly pledge my sacred honor
as an officer of the California Highway Patrol."

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ANNEX C
CODE OF ETHICS



POST Commission – Code of Ethics

Purpose

To insure that all peace officers are fully aware of their individual responsibilities to maintain their own integrity and that of their agency, every peace officer, during basic training, or at the time of appointment, shall be administered the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, as prescribed in Section 1013 of POST Regulations.

Code of Ethics

AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, my fundamental duty is to serve humankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all persons to liberty, equality and justice.

I WILL keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; 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 in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land 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, 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 the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God(1) to my chosen profession... law enforcement.

(1)Reference to religious affirmation may be omitted where objected to by the officer.

Employee Signature/ID # _____ Date _____

**To be placed in employee's personnel file prior to field assignment.*

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