



**Southport Police
Department**

POLICY #

Effective Date:

Authority:

Thomas L. Vaughn
Chief of Police

Limitations on Work Hours

Limitations on Work Hours

BACKGROUND

The Southport Police Department recognizes that the implications of police officer fatigue are tremendous. Fatigue can greatly undermine police-citizen interactions, vehicle operation safety, member use of force, general decision making, officer alertness, and impair physical and mental performance. Therefore it is imperative that police officers get the adequate amount of rest, and that officer fatigue be closely monitored and closely supervised by all members of the department

POLICY

The policy of the Southport Police Department is to consider the overall health and work condition of members when assessing their ability to efficiently perform assigned duties. As such, SOPD will evaluate and monitor the number of hours a member works during his/her regular tour of duty, outside employment, Department overtime, and court appearances in an effort to prevent police officer fatigue

DEFINITIONS

When used in this directive, the following terms shall have the designated meaning:

Twenty-Four Hour Period-Time period beginning with a member's scheduled reporting time for his/her tour of duty, and extending over the next 24 hours (i.e. a member whose scheduled reporting time is Sunday at 0600 hours would begin his/her 24-hour period at that time. The 24-hour period would end the following day on Monday at 0600 hours).

Outside Employment- The engagement in any line of business, or the performance at any time, of any work or service for any person, firm or corporation, other than that required by one's official position in the Southport Police Department, for the purpose of obtaining wages, salary, fee, gift or other compensation.

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NOTE: Examples of outside employment include, but are not limited to, police-related security positions.

REGULATIONS

No member shall work more than 16 (sixteen) hour within a 24 (twenty-four) hour period. This work hour limitation shall include:

- Regular tour of duty
- Court appearance
- Outside employment

When a member of the department is scheduled more than 16 (sixteen) hours in any 24 hour period the officer shall notify his/her direct chain of command of the policy violation. If the violation is a result of outside employment he/she shall reschedule his or her outside employment. The responsibility shall lie with the officer's direct chain of command to enforce this policy.

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