

ORDINANCE NO. 0.3. 07

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**AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE SPECIAL POLICE OFFICER PROGRAM
FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF DEPTFORD**

WHEREAS, the Township of Deptford recognizes the value of a program designed to expose those interested in a career in law enforcement to the daily activities and responsibilities of police work; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that such a program will encourage a mutual respect between the participants of the program and the regular Police force and personnel, while providing an essential cost effective police service to the community; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that such a program will also provide an excellent recruiting opportunity while encouraging worthwhile full-time police applicants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Deptford, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, as follows:

§1. Special Police Officers.

A. A Special Police Officer Program shall be created in the Township of Deptford as designed and presented by the Deptford Township Police Department.

B. The Mayor and Council or Township Manager may appoint special police officers (also known as special law enforcement officers), who shall be qualified and trained as required by the Special Law Enforcement Officers Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:14-146.8, et seq. Special Police Officers shall be appointed for terms not exceeding one year, subject to the revocation procedures set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:14-146.8, et seq.

C. Special police officers shall only render police services to the Township when expressly assigned to active duty for that purpose by the Chief of Police.

D. At all times, the special police officers shall be under the direct control of the Chief of Police. When on duty, special police officers shall be under the supervision of the highest ranking line officer of the Police Department, unless otherwise specified in the special directives.

§2. Appointment of special police officers.

A. The Mayor and Council or Township Manager may appoint special police officers sufficient to perform the duties and responsibilities permitted by the rules and regulations of the Police Department, this ordinance, and N.J.S.A. 40A:14-146.8, et seq.

B. No person may be appointed as a special police officer unless the person:

- (1) Is a resident of this state during the term of appointment.
- (2) Is able to read, write and speak the English language well and intelligently and has a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- (3) Is sound in body and of good health.
- (4) Is of good moral character.
- (5) Has not been convicted of any offense involving dishonesty or which would make him or her unfit to perform the duties of his or her office.
- (6) Has successfully undergone the same psychological testing that is required of all full-time police officers in the municipality.

C. Every applicant for the position of special police officer appointed pursuant to this ordinance shall have fingerprints taken, which fingerprints shall be filed with the Division of State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

D. No person shall be appointed to serve as special police officer in more than one (1) municipality at the same time, nor shall any permanent regularly appointed full-time police officer of any municipality be appointed as a special police officer in the Township of Deptford. No public official with responsibility for setting law enforcement policy or exercising authority over the budget of the Township or supervision of the Police Department of the Township shall be appointed as a special police officer.

E. Before any special police officer is appointed pursuant to this ordinance, the Chief of Police, or in the absence of the Chief, the highest ranking law enforcement officer of the Township shall ascertain the eligibility and qualifications of the applicant and report these determinations, in writing, to the Mayor and Council.

§3. Term of appointment of special police officers.

Special police officers shall be appointed by the Mayor and Council or Township Manager for a term not to exceed one year. Upon the expiration of the term of a special police officer and/or termination of his or her employment as herein described, the powers and duties of such special police officer shall be deemed terminated.

§4. Termination of employment of special police officers.

The employment of special police officers may be terminated at any time by the Chief of Police or Township Manager with or without cause as allowed by applicable state law.

§5. Duties and responsibilities of special police officers.

Special police officers shall have the power to issue summonses for disorderly person(s) or petty disorderly person(s) offenses, violations of the municipal ordinances and violations of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes. The use of a firearm by a Class One special police officer is strictly prohibited and no Class One officer shall be assigned any duties which may require the carrying or use of a firearm.

§6. Chain of command and regulations pertaining to special police officers.

A. At all times, the special police officer shall be under the direct command of the highest ranking line officer then on duty.

B. No special police officer, by virtue of his appointment as such, shall be a member of the Police Department and shall not be entitled to tenure.

C. Every special police officer, while on duty, shall abide by all the rules and regulations of the Police Department. Any violation of the rules and regulations may result in immediate dismissal.

§7. Uniforms.

A. Every special police officer, prior to the commencement of his or her duties, shall be furnished with a uniform that shall identify the officer's function.

B. The uniform shall include, but not be limited to, a hat and appropriate badges that shall bear an identification number or name tag, and the name of the Township. The uniform shall also include an insignia issued by the Police Training Commission which clearly indicates the officer's status as a special police officer and the type of certification issued pursuant to this ordinance.

C. Nothing in this section shall preclude the designation of an insignia to read either "special police" or "special law enforcement officer."

§8. Fees.

A. The Mayor and Council may, by resolution, charge a reasonable fee for equipment and uniforms supplied to special police officers.

B. Special police officers will not be charged a fee for the costs of training or issuing a certificate of appointment.

C. Special police officers will not be compensated for time spent in training required herein.

§9. Hours of employment.

A. No special police officer may be employed for more than twenty (20) hours per week by the Township, except during periods of emergency, as that term is defined by N.J.S.A. 40A:14-146.9, when such officers may be employed without limitation as to hours.

B. If a special police officer is assigned to perform public safety duties for a private entity, he or she may do so for not more than twenty (20) hours per week in addition to not more than twenty (20) hours per week employment for the Township.

C. The Mayor and Council may designate, by ordinance, one (1) special police officer to whom the limitations on hours employed does not apply.

D. Special police officers may be employed only to assist the Township of Deptford but may not be employed to replace or substitute for full-time regular police officers or in any way to diminish the number of full-time officers employed by the Township.

§10. Compensation.

Special police officers shall be paid in accordance with the annual Salary Resolution within the guidelines set forth in the Salary Ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall become effective twenty days after the final adoption and publication according to the laws of the State of New Jersey.

TOWNSHIP OF DEPTFORD

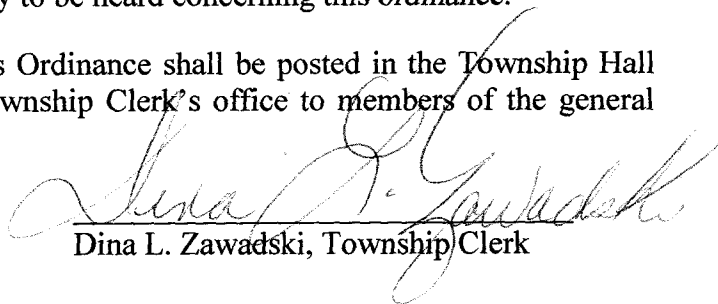


PAUL MEDANY, MAYOR

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at a regular meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Deptford, in the County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, held on February 5, 2007 and will be considered for second reading and final passage at the regular meeting of said Governing Body to be held on the 5th day of MARCH, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as this matter can be reached, at the meeting room of the Township Hall in Deptford, New Jersey at which time all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning this ordinance.

Prior to second reading, a copy of this Ordinance shall be posted in the Township Hall and copies shall be made available at the Township Clerk's office to members of the general public who may request such copies.


Dina L. Zawadski, Township Clerk

Dated: 3-5-07

FIRST READING: FEB. 5, 2007

SECOND READING: MARCH 5, 2007

ADOPTED: MARCH 5, 2007

ATTEST: 
TOWNSHIP CLERK