

PORT HURON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURAL ORDER

			ORDER NO: 01-16
SUBJECT: Duty to Intervene			
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 11, 2020	DISTRIBUTION:	REVIEWED: REVISED:	Annual
REQUIREMENTS:			
ISSUED BY: Chief Joseph Platzer		FORMS:	

I. POLICY

A. **Legal and Moral Obligation.** It is the purpose of this policy to explain the legal and moral obligation of all Port Huron Police Department employees known as the Duty to Intervene. This duty is embodied in the Port Huron Police Department’s statement of values and mission, in the law enforcement officer’s code of ethics, and in the law. Port Huron Police Department members shall have a clear understanding of the Port Huron Police Department’s expectations pertaining to conduct and activities while on and off-duty.

II: DEFINITION

Intervene — To come between, whether verbally or physically, so as to prevent or alter a result or course of events.

De-escalation – Behavior that is intended to escape escalations of conflicts. Taking action or communicating verbally or non-verbally during a potential force encounter in an attempt to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so that more time, options, and resources can be called upon to resolve the situation if needed.

III: DUTY TO INTERVENE

A. All Port Huron Police Department employees must use de-escalation tactics, both verbally and physically, to gain control of a volatile situation when possible. The ultimate goal of de-escalation is to prevent the incident from escalating and requiring some level of force.

B. All police department employees must recognize and act upon their “duty to intervene” to prevent or stop any employee from conducting any act that is unethical,

or that violates law or policy (e.g., excessive force, theft, fraud, inappropriate language and behavior, sexual misconduct, harassment, falsifying documents, etc.). Intervention may be verbal and/or physical. Failure to intervene may subject an employee to disciplinary action.

- C. Any Port Huron Police Department employee with knowledge of another employee that conduct any unethical act, or that violates law or policy (e.g., excessive force, theft, fraud, inappropriate language and behavior, sexual misconduct, harassment, falsifying documents, etc.) shall report it immediately to the on duty command officer.

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