

Standardized Curriculum for the B06 Ethics Core Training Course



International Conference of Police Chaplains

Official Authorized Version Revised April 2014

All prior versions of this course material are obsolete and superseded by this version. All prior versions should be discarded.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF POLICE CHAPLAINS STANDARD LESSON OUTLINE AND LESSON PLAN

Course Title: Ethics

Course Number: B06

Course Level: Basic

Class Time: 1.5 Hours

Training Objectives

The goals of instruction in the **B06 Ethics Core Training Course** are to provide the student with:

- An understanding of the terminology surrounding ethics
- An understanding of the trust the public places in its public servants, ministers, and counselors
- The role of ethics in leadership
- Fair and open access of accountability
- Personal and cooperative values
- The development of integrity and character
- Leadership and character as goals
- The measure of character
- The expectations of public servants

Handouts: International Conference of Police Chaplain's Canons of Ethics for the Law Enforcement Chaplain

References:

Training Aids



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Lesson Outline

- I. Definition of Ethics and Germane Terminology
 - A. Ethics
 - B. Morals
 - C. Standards
 - D. Public Trust
 - E. Truth
 - F. Integrity
 - G. Situational Ethics
 - H. Fairness
 - I. Values
 - J. Probity

- II. Trust Given to Public Servants, Ministers and Counselors
 - A. The nature of public trust
 - 1. State of nature
 - a. Right to life, liberty, and property
 - b. Protection of rights
 - B. Behavior and public trust
 - 1. Ethics
 - 2. Etiquette
 - 3. Law
 - 4. Religion
 - C. Expectation of public trust
 - D. Ways of destroying public trust
 - E. Public trust dilemmas
 - 1. Truth vs. justice
 - 2. Honesty vs. loyalty
 - 3. Due process vs. crime control
 - F. The ramifications of destroying public trust

- III. The Role of Ethics in Leadership
 - A. Models of leadership style
 - 1. Succeed at all costs – George Patton
 - 2. Be liked at all costs – George McClellan
 - 3. Advance career at all costs – George Custer
 - 4. True leader – George Marshall



- B. Results of true leadership
 1. Confidence
 2. Integrity and honesty
 3. Motive and motivation
- C. Characteristics of a true leader
 1. Balanced decision making
 2. Models the right thing
 3. Empowers subordinates
- IV. Fair and Open Access
 - A. Gratuities
 1. Influence
 2. Appearance
 3. Risks
 - B. Equal protection – equal justice
- V. Personal and Cooperative Values
 - A. Values
 - B. Priorities
 - C. Choices
 - D. Responsibility
- VI. Integrity and Character
 - A. Development of character
 1. Effects of heredity
 2. Effects of environment
 3. Instruction
 4. Discipline, correction, and punishment
 - B. Habit, the second nature
 - C. Character is acquired by thought and process which is affected by example, opportunity, and environment
 1. Develop good habits
 2. Practice just behavior
 3. Use authority judiciously
 4. Be fair
 5. Shun excuses
 6. Exhibit courageousness
 - D. Habit is a learned behavior
- VII. Leadership and Character
 - A. Vision, goal oriented toward what is best and what is attainable
 - B. Self imposed checks and balances



- C. Strive for excellence, not merely the good or the passable
- D. The balanced life

VIII. Measures of Character

- A. Bad Character
 - 1. Seek opportunities to profit by victimizing others
 - 2. Right and wrong unimportant
 - 3. Abuses authority
- B. Uncontrolled character
 - 1. Weak willed
 - 2. Easily yields to temptation
 - 3. Controlled by peer pressure
- C. Self-controlled character
 - 1. Right thing-wrong reason
 - 2. Conflict between duty and desire
 - 3. Resents expectations
- D. Excellent character
 - 1. Loyalty
 - 2. Courage
 - 3. Honor integrity
 - 4. Balance

IX. Expectations of Public Servants

- A. To be a catalyst to promote individual's pursuit of happiness
- B. Keep promises and commitments
- C. Be honest in all relationships and endeavors
- D. Perform to the best of one's ability



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Detailed Lesson Plan

Ethics for the chaplain means acting with integrity.

DEFINITIONS

Ethics: Ethics is a code of behavior that enables people to make moral judgments about difficult situations.

Morals: Morality is a system of principles and judgments based on cultural, religious, and philosophical concepts and beliefs, by which humans determine whether given actions, are right or wrong. These concepts and beliefs are often generalized and codified by a culture or group, and thus serve to regulate the behavior of its members. Conformity to such codification may also be called morality, and the group may depend on widespread conformity to such codes for its continued existence.

Standards: Something, such as a practice or a product, which is widely recognized or employed, especially because of its excellence.

Public Trust: Responsibility the public places on government to care for their interests.

Truth: That which is universally and at all times the determining basis for the reality of existence. Factuality, that which exists regardless of viewpoint or relative opinion. The essence of natural law and its principles.

Integrity: Integrity comprises the personal inner sense of "wholeness" deriving from honesty and consistent uprightness of character. The etymology of the word relates it to the Latin adjective integer (whole, complete). Evaluators, of course, usually assess integrity from some point of view, such as that of a given ethical tradition or in the context of an ethical relationship.

Situational Ethics: Situational ethics refers to a particular view of ethics, in which absolute standards are considered less important than the requirements of a particular situation. The standards used may, therefore, vary from one situation to another, and may even contradict one another.

Fairness: Justice is a concept involving the fair, moral, and impartial treatment of all persons, especially in law. It is often seen as the continued effort to do what is "right." In most cases, what one regards as "right" is determined by consulting the majority, employing logic, or referring to divine authority, in the case of religion.

Values: Principles, standards or qualities considered worthwhile or desirable by the person who holds them.



Probity: Complete and confirmed integrity; having strong moral principles

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF POLICE CHAPLAINS

Canons of Ethics for the Law Enforcement Chaplain

I. The Law Enforcement Chaplain is foremost a member of the clergy and not an officer of the law. If a Chaplain does happen to be a sworn officer as well as a chaplain, he or she must make certain that everyone understands which role he or she is fulfilling at any given time, always conducting himself or herself in an ethical and professional manner. Departmental requirements for reporting matters up the chain of command and the necessity for confidentiality in communication with the chaplain make this imperative.

II. The Law Enforcement Chaplain shall be, and continue in good standing to be, a member of his or her faith group clergy. Any change in such status must immediately be reported to Departmental authorities and to the International Conference of Police Chaplains.

III. The Law Enforcement Chaplain serves in an ecumenical capacity. He or she is not to use the chaplaincy to proselytize or to preach in order to win adherents to his or her faith group. It shall be assumed that the Law Enforcement Chaplain shall be familiar with the beliefs and practices of the various faith groups represented in his or her Department. It shall further be assumed that the Law Enforcement Chaplain is familiar with the requirements of honesty, integrity, humility, compassion, decency, brotherhood, humanity and love that are overarching concepts among faith groups.

IV. The Law Enforcement Chaplain shall not hesitate to seek guidance either from Departmental authorities or clergy of other faith groups when such guidance becomes necessary to the proper discharge of chaplaincy duties.

V. The Law Enforcement Chaplain may from time to time face situations involving members of his or her general community. The chaplain is to discharge his or her duties in such situations with due regard for any Departmental policies and procedures that may obtain in such circumstances. The chaplain is still a member of the clergy and as such may be of service to the entire community as long as he or she does not infringe upon the ministry of another member of the clergy and does not improperly involve his or her Department by such service.

VI. It cannot be stressed too strongly that the Law Enforcement Chaplain shall maintain the confidentiality of those who seek his or her guidance and counsel as a chaplain. The Law Enforcement Chaplain shall become familiar with the laws governing confidentiality that obtain in his or her state, province, territory or nation.

VII. The Law Enforcement Chaplain shall be aware of Departmental regulations concerning favors, gifts and gratuities and follow them rigorously. He or she shall not give or receive any favor, gift or gratuity that has, or has the appearance of having, a basis in special consideration. He or she shall always conduct himself or herself in an ethical and professional manner.

VIII. The Law Enforcement Chaplain shall not lend his or her presence to any political or social movement in any manner that may suggest departmental endorsement of such a movement. Any such endorsement or advocacy must be undertaken only as a civilian member of the clergy.



Political and social movements are clearly distinguishable from civic office. As citizens, Law Enforcement Chaplains may and do hold public office either by election or appointment. At all times, however, the role of public servant must be held distinct from the role of clergy.

IX. The Law Enforcement Chaplain shall maintain timely and accurate records of any resources put at his or her disposal for the exercise of the chaplaincy ministry and be ready at all times to render an account of such resources to the appropriate authority or authorities.



DISCUSSION SCENARIOS

- #1 You observe a crime at which large amounts of cash are strewn about the room. You see in one of the officer's pockets some of the cash and wink at the sergeant who winks back.
- #2 The station commander often brings his family to dine at one or another of the best restaurants in his district. He routinely gets a big break on the check. This same commander maintains a strict no-free-coffee-and-donuts policy for patrol personnel.
- #3 A scheduling supervisor routinely rejects the very occasional and legitimate request of certain officers for perfectly reasonable accommodations in shift work.
- #4 An unmarried officer has developed an intimate relationship with the wife of an officer on a different shift.
- #5 An unruly suspect is booked at the station and the booking officer dealing with this behavior neglects to ask the arrestee certain medical questions. The suspect later dies in a diabetic coma. The arrest record shows that boxes for the questions were checked off indicating no diabetes, but you know that this was done later because you were with the booking officer during the process; you were both trying to calm him down.
- #6 An officer, six months from retirement, routinely drives his patrol car to a quiet spot, turns off the dispatch radio/mobile terminal and snoozes until lunch. He neither takes calls nor backs up others. He is very popular among the troops, however, and they cover for him.
- #7 An officer at your station is a lay preacher at his church and constantly evangelizes the other officers, many of whom find his behavior extremely annoying. The "preacher" is a training officer, an old hand, and a favorite among the brass. He has a good record as a cop.
- #8 A female sergeant with 15 years on the department is bitter about the manner in which female officers have been treated with respect to promotion and opportunity for special training. As a sergeant she routinely favors female officers' requests for special training and finds all sorts of excuses to deny the requests of equally or better-qualified male officers.
- #9 An officer has died in a well-publicized shootout. He saved some hostages and took out the bad guy before succumbing. The department and the press are hailing him as a hero and the department could use the good press about now. His widow knows him as an abusive, two-timing S.O.B. The girlfriend, however, is grief-stricken. She plans to attend the funeral which will be a large public



event. The widow says she will not attend if the girlfriend is there. She is adamant. You are one of the officiating clergy.

- #10 You are with an officer who receives an indecent exposure call. When you roll up, you observe an elderly male naked from the waist down and lying in his own waste. The officer determines that the man is mentally not all there, probably with Alzheimer's disease. He also determines that the man lives a block away with his older brother and younger sister. You throw a blanket over the man and take him home. The apartment is filthy, reeking of unimaginable combinations of garbage and decay, and the man's siblings are not much more mentally competent than he is. The officer decides to leave the man in the apartment with his family.
- #11 On a ride-along you observe Officer A doing an outstanding job of police work. Sergeant B took Officer A's report and wrote a supplement to it in which the sergeant became responsible for all the good decisions in the incident. He is using this supplement, with only a brief reference to the original report, to support his application for a currently vacant lieutenant's position. You know what he is saying is phony; you were there.
- #12 During a ride-along, you observe two officers stop to caution two male street prostitutes. During the interview one officer takes one of the young men into a dark alley. You hear the sound of a nightstick on flesh, cries of pain, and the officer saying, "Get off my streets and stay off them." No males are arrested.
- #13 An officer with a need for extra money because of medical expenses accepts small payoffs from club owners in his district for not ticketing their illegally parked customers and for overlooking drug sales in the vicinity of those clubs. The department has a very poor medical insurance plan, and the man is truly in need of money for a sick wife and children. Other officers are aware of what he does and cover for him whenever a question is raised about the "parking situation" and drug activity in the area.
- #14 While on a ride-along with Officer Smith, you observe him talking to a known prostitute who he has just stopped while talking to a potential customer. Officer Smith takes a liking to her and decides not to arrest her while trying to get her to go out with him after work.
- #15 While on a ride-along you observe Officer Smith stop and frisk what he says is a known drug dealer. The search produces about 20 glassine envelopes of a white, powdery substance that is probably heroin. Officer Smith takes the drug dealer off to the side and talks to him, and then comes back to the car. No arrest is made and the drug dealer goes on his way.

