

## Oath of Office

### 102.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that, when appropriate, oaths are administered to department members.

### 102.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Forest Heights Police Department that, when appropriate, department members affirm the oath of their office as an expression of commitment to the constitutional rights of those served by the Department and the dedication of its members to their duties.

### 102.3 OATH OF OFFICE

All department members, when appropriate, shall take and subscribe to the required oath or affirmation to the Town Clerk in addition to any other form of oath or affirmation required by the Maryland Constitution, state law or ordinance (Md. Const. Art. I § 9; Md. Code CJ § 2-104; Md. Code PS § 3-309) and the Town Charter § 33-84. If a member is opposed to taking an oath, he/she shall be permitted to substitute the word “affirm” for the word “swear.”

### 102.4 MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

The oath of office shall be filed as prescribed by law (Md. Const. Art. I § 10; Md. Code PS § 3-309).

### 102.5 SANCTITY OF LIFE PLEDGE

All officers are required to sign an affirmative written sanctity of life pledge to respect every human life and act with compassion toward others (Md. PS § 3-524).