



Helen Police Department

Standard Operating Policies and Procedures

Chapter A-010 Mission Statement	Effective Date:	August 1, 2022	# of Pages:	3
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I. PURPOSE

- A. The primary purpose (mission) of the Helen Police Department is to maintain social order within prescribed ethical and constitutional limits, while providing professional law enforcement services. To attain this, the Helen Police Department enforces the law in a fair and impartial manner, recognizing both the statutory and judicial limitations of police authority and the constitutional rights of all persons. The Agency recognizes that no law enforcement agency can operate at its maximum potential without supportive input from the citizens it serves. This Agency actively solicits and encourages the cooperation of all citizens to reduce and limit the opportunities for crime and to facilitate the maximum use of resources.
- B. As members of the City of Helen Police Department, we are all charged with the responsibility of serving and protecting the citizens and transients within the City.
- C. The City of Helen Police Department vigorously responds to calls for law enforcement services, enforces all State and local laws and ordinances, protects life and property, investigates matters of a criminal nature, preserves the peace, and strives to prevent crime disorder. We are guided by the ordinances enacted by the City of Helen, the laws of the state of Georgia, and the Constitution of the United States of America.
- D. We must strive to set a standard of excellence for others to follow, both individually and collectively. In keeping with this goal, we have adopted the following concise mission statement that reflects the fundamental principles of our agency. We feel this should be the cornerstone of each and every member of our agency's policing philosophy:

MISSION STATEMENT

“To unite with our community in order to enhance a peaceful and valued quality of life in which the public feels safe and secure from crime, social disorder, and circumstances which compromise their safety and well-being.”

II. AGENCY GOALS

A. To accomplish the mission of the Helen Police Department, the following 11 goals are established:

1. PROTECTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY

a. To provide services which contribute to the preservation of life, the protection of property, and the safety of the community.

2. PREVENTION, DETECTION AND INVESTIGATION OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

a. To prevent crime through aggressive patrol that limits the opportunity for a crime to occur, and through education of citizens that reduces the likelihood of them becoming victims.

b. To provide a thorough, appropriate, and efficient investigation of criminal activity.

c. To apply effective measures against organized crime and related activities.

3. APPREHENSION OF OFFENDERS

a. To provide for the expeditious and prudent apprehension of suspected violators of the law, regardless of his status in the community, by thorough, appropriate, and efficient investigations.

4. MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER

a. To maintain peace and public order. To assist during times of natural or technological occurrences or disasters.

5. RECOVERY OF PROPERTY

- a. To secure and maintain an inventory of all property, evidence, lost and recovered/stolen property being held by the law enforcement agency; thereby ensuring that all property and evidence is available when needed.

6. TRAINING OF OFFICERS

- a. To design and implement a training program to fill the training needs of officers, and to promote a high rate of proficiency in the officers of the Helen Police Department. To address career development goals of agency personnel.

7. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICAL STANDARDS

- a. To ensure the integrity and adherence to professional standards of the Helen Police Department by processing and investigating all complaints against Agency personnel.

8. TRAFFIC CONTROL

- a. To provide for the safe and effective flow of both vehicular and pedestrian traffic and the investigation of traffic related accidents.

9. COMMUNITY SERVICE

- a. To provide the resources necessary for assisting citizens under special non-criminal circumstances. The Helen Police Department management system will plan, staff, coordinate and control resources in support of community-oriented policing. Further, the Helen Police Department community relations/crime prevention objectives are shared by all personnel.

10. AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

- a. To provide management, administration, and support required for the operation of the department. The Helen Police Department will maintain a Records Management System (RMS) to be used to prepare reports for selected departments components and activities. The RMS will provide information regarding workloads of the Administrative, Patrol and Criminal Investigation Divisions. In addition, the RMS will monitor processing times, resources used, performance and productivity.