	Hope Mills Police Department **RULES AND REGULATIONS**	Number **2.27**
	Subject **CITIZEN COMPLAINTS**	Effective Date **24 March 1997**
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CITIZEN COMPLAINTS

Officers shall courteously and promptly record in writing any complaint made by a citizen against any officer or the Department. Officers may attempt to resolve the complaint but shall never attempt to dissuade any citizen from lodging a complaint against any officer or the Department. Officers shall follow established department procedures for processing complaints.

	Hope Mills Police Department **RULES AND REGULATIONS**	Number **2.05**
	Subject **UNBECOMING CONDUCT**	Effective Date **24 March 1997**
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UNBECOMING CONDUCT

A Police officer or Police Department employee is the most conspicuous representative of local government and, to the majority of people, is a symbol of stability and authority upon whom they can rely. A member of the Hope Mills Police Department must recognize that they are held to a different standard of conduct both on and off duty. Their conduct is closely scrutinized and receives above-average media attention. When an officer's actions, on or off duty, are found to be excessive, unwarranted, or unjustified, such actions are criticized far more severely than comparable conduct of persons in other professions.

The Hope Mills Police Department retains the right to protect its image and reputation as a professional Law Enforcement agency. It is understood by all members of the Hope Mills Police Department that improper conduct of a department member on or off duty may reflect poorly on the Department and Law Enforcement Profession. Employees must at all times conduct themselves in a manner that does not bring discredit to themselves, the Department, the Profession, or the Town of Hope Mills.

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment. Violations of this policy can be charged in conjunction with other policy violations.

Examples of unbecoming conduct include but are not limited to the following:

1. Criminal charges against an officer or non-sworn member of the Department
2. Founded allegations of disorderly conduct and fighting.
3. Founded allegations of intoxication in public which results in disorderly conduct.
4. Abusive, insulting, or profane language directed at a member of the public.
5. Social Media activity compromises the public perception that an officer will discharge their duties in a fair and impartial manner.
6. Social association with individuals known to be involved in criminal activity.
7. Dishonest, untruthful statements. Written, verbal, or otherwise.
8. Failure to disengage from a non-law enforcement-related confrontation or argument.
9. Behavior on the part of the HMPD member requiring the response and involvement of law enforcement.

10. Any behavior that would preclude a prospective employee from obtaining employment with the Hope Mills Police Department.

11. Any act of moral turpitude on the part of the HMPD member which results in public outcry, disapproval, and condemnation is in contrast with current social norms.

12. Failure to abide by the tenants of the Oath of Office or Law Enforcement Code of Ethics.