

# **Grand Forks Fire Department**

## **Standard Operating Procedures**

<b>SOP#</b> <b>102.02</b>	<b>Section</b> <b>Rules and Regulations</b>	<b>Title</b> <b>Obedience to Orders</b>
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<b>Effective date: 02/01/02</b>	<b>Implementation date: 02/01/02</b>	<b>Revision date:</b>

1. Employees shall read and become familiar with the department's rules, regulations, policies, and procedures. No plea of ignorance of the rules and regulations will be accepted as an excuse for any violation.
2. Employees shall promptly and willingly respond to the lawful orders of superior officers or acting officers. Refusal to obey a lawful order shall constitute insubordination. Obvious disrespect for or disruption of a supervisor's order likewise shall be deemed insubordination.
3. Employees shall abide by federal and state law, local ordinances and rules, and the department's general orders and rules of conduct. Employees shall not be required to obey orders that are illegal or in conflict with the department's rules and regulations.
4. Employees shall not openly criticize or comment derogatorily to anyone about instructions or orders received from a superior officer:
5. Supervisors and acting supervisors shall refrain from exceeding their authority in giving orders. The wrongful or injurious exercise of authority is prohibited.
6. Every officer, on and off duty, shall be held responsible for enforcing the department's rules. If a violation comes to an officer's attention, that officer shall immediately notify the employee of the violation and take corrective action. Should an officer fail to report a violation of an order or the department's rules, that officer shall be equally responsible for the violation.

7. Should an employee receive an order that conflicts with a previous order, the employee shall notify the officer who issued the conflicting order and shall be governed by the officer's subsequent instructions.
8. An employee may appeal for relief from orders or instructions that the employee believes to be illegal, unjust, or improper.
9. Employees shall not question orders on the emergency scene unless they believe the order to be contrary to the safety of the public or themselves.