

34.06 Appointment, Commissioning and Authority of Peace Officers

Approved February 27, 1995 (MO 44-95)
Revised July 26, 1996 (MO 169-96)
Revised March 25, 2004 (MO 28-04)
Revised December 5, 2008 (MO -2008)
Next Scheduled Review: December 5, 2010



Policy Statement

The Board of Regents (board) of The Texas A&M University System (system) may employ and commission peace officers in accordance with state law.

Reason for Policy

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the chief executive officer (CEO) of each system member university and the Texas Forest Service in the hiring and commissioning of peace officers to ensure compliance with the applicable sections of the Texas Education Code.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. CAMPUS POLICE OFFICERS

- 1.1 The Texas Education Code provides that the system board may employ and commission campus peace officers for the purpose of protecting the safety and welfare of students, employees, and property of the institution in accordance with state law. Any officer so commissioned is vested with all powers, privileges, and immunities of peace officers while the officer is in his or her primary jurisdiction or outside the officer's primary jurisdiction as provided by the Education Code.
- 1.2 Any officer assigned to duty and commissioned shall take and file the oath required of peace officers.
- 1.3 Commissioned campus peace officers employed by any university of the system shall normally confine their duties as peace officers to activities within the boundaries of the property owned, leased or otherwise controlled by the respective system university but, nonetheless, shall have primary jurisdiction in any county in which the property is located.

2. PEACE OFFICER OF TEXAS FOREST SERVICE

- 2.1 The director of the Texas Forest Service may appoint up to 25 duly-certified employees to serve as peace officers under his or her direction in executing the agency's enforcement duties as provided by Section 88.103, Education Code.
- 2.2 The appointments must be approved by the board, which shall commission the appointees as peace officers for the system. Any officer so commissioned is vested with all the powers, privileges, and immunities of peace officers in the performance of his or her duties.
- 2.3 Each officer shall take the oath required of peace officers.

3. COMMISSIONING AND CERTIFICATION

- 3.1 The presidents of system member universities are authorized to appoint and commission campus police as peace officers in accordance with the requirements of the law, subject to confirmation by the board.
- 3.2 The director of the Texas Forest Service is authorized to appoint and commission employees as peace officers in accordance with requirements of the law, subject to confirmation by the board.
- 3.3 The executive secretary to the board is authorized to sign any and all certifications that may be required to attest to board action to the commissioning of peace officers.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[Tex. Educ. Code § 51.203](#)

[Tex. Educ. Code § 88.103](#)

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