

GOVERNMENT NOTICE No. 315 Published On. 26/3/2021

THE POLICE FORCE AND AUXILIARY SERVICES ACT,
(CAP. 322)

ORDER

(Made under section 7)

THE POLICE FORCE AND AUXILIARY SERVICES (POLICE GENERAL ORDERS) ORDER,
2021

Citation

1. This Order may be cited as the Police Force and Auxiliary Services (Police General Orders) Order, 2021.

Issuance of
Orders

2.-(1) By virtue of section 7 of the Act, the Inspector General of Police hereby issues the Police General Orders, which shall bind all members of the Force.

(2) The Orders referred to under paragraph (1) shall be as specified in the Schedule to this Order.

Revocation of
existing Orders

3. The Police General Orders which exist before the commencement of this Order are hereby revoked.

SCHEDULE

(Made under paragraph 2(2))

THE POLICE GENERAL ORDERS

INTRODUCTION

Throughout the world, violence, delinquency and fear undermine the basic rights of individuals to live in peace and tranquillity, economic growth, and fully benefit from a healthy and sustainable community development. This Third edition of the Police General Orders provide detailed guidance for Police Officers to adhere to, when discharging their duties and ensuring that laws and orders are maintained. The first edition was produced in 1961 and subsequently, the second edition was issued in 2006 which has been in use since then.

It should be noted that whatever the manner of perceiving or representing the challenges posed by security, the Police worldwide deploy new ways of organizing and carrying out their functions in an environment marked by the complexity of the common problems. The world currently is small like a village; criminals use technology infrastructure to network and share unethical expertise to commit crimes. These drastic changes of using modern technology to commit crimes compromise the existing experience of peace and security of the community which has necessitated the structure of these General Orders to be different from the previous editions.

In addition, the United Republic of Tanzania is undertaking major reforms in relation to economic policies and development projects that need to be implemented hand to hand with enactment of new legislations, new government structures and accountability demand in policing. There have also been changes in the way government finances her expenses and procurement matters are handled. In the area of international law on policing a series of developments have taken place and some of these developments have been reflected in these Orders based on the extent our domestic laws and Constitution have taken them into account. In this regard, some General Orders have been modified to match with the prevailing reality and to allow flexibility to accommodate the changes that have been referred to above. The revision of these General Orders has also taken into account various Government directives and other cross-cutting reforms on the administration of the Force in the country.

PURPOSE OF THE GENERAL ORDERS

These General Orders of the Force are issued pursuant to the authority granted to the Chief of Police Force under the law governing police matters. The directives contained in these General Orders help to guide the Force in carrying out their duties and responsibilities as members of the Force. Each member is expected to follow the directives set forth in these General Orders, although it is understood that these General Orders cannot regulate conduct in every situation that may arise in the course of policing, therefore, decision and discretion must be prudently applied. Each directive issued in these Police General Orders supersedes all conflicting prior policies and orders published by the Force.

KNOWLEDGE OF THE POLICE GENERAL ORDERS

Every member is responsible for becoming aware of, understanding, and following the General Orders and other directives of the Force. Through its training programme, the Force will endeavor increase the knowledge and understanding of all members to be acquainted with such directives.

Therefore, members of the Force are expected to consult these General Orders when questions arise regarding execution of police work.

RELATION TO OTHER OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

Members are expected to know, understand and follow other official Force publications, including Force Orders, Standing Orders, or any other publication of a directive nature. Members are expected to keep themselves current on all directives issued by the Force that affect them.

DISCREPANCIES IN ORDERS OR DIRECTIVES

All members are obliged to comply with these General Orders. Any member who believes a discrepancy exists in these General Orders or any other Force Orders or directive, or who has a question about any aspect of a responsibility or guideline, shall bring the matter to the attention of a superior Officer for resolution, guidance or clarification.

ISSUE OF COPIES OF GENERAL ORDERS

The copies of General Orders shall be issued as prescribed in paragraph 5 of P.G.O. No. 29 and shall remain the property of the Force, any loss of it or a part of it will be reported to the member's immediate superior Officer.

Members who are issued copies of these General Orders, are responsible for maintaining their copies in a good condition and in a secure place. The General Orders shall be updated periodically by including new provisions or by revising or rescinding existing provisions as may be published in the Force Orders. Where changes or additions to these General Orders are made and distributed, members shall promptly update their copies of the General Orders. The updating of the General Orders shall be made pursuant to paragraphs 6 to 8 of P.G.O. No 29.

REVIEW AND REVISION OF THE GENERAL ORDERS

Any member can propose a change to these General Orders. The proposed change must be made in writing, preferably in the format of the existing General Orders. The proposal should be routed through the official channels of communication in the Force. A team assembled by the Chief of Police Force shall review the proposed change and consider it appropriately. The team may also act on its own initiative to propose a change to these General Orders. When the team's review is complete, the team shall recommend to the Chief of Police Force to be adopted.

The Legal and Research section of the Force shall coordinate the development of new directives, conduct periodic General Orders review and recommend updates, cause the distribution of new or amended directives, and maintain the official publications of the Force. The Police Training Institutions will be responsible for providing training to ensure an understanding of the existing P.G.O or new or amended General Orders. Changes to the General Orders shall be distributed as soon as possible.

NUMBERED SECTIONS

Directives contained in these General Orders are grouped together by category and function. Orders in a section are assigned paragraph numbers to index the information that makes up the specific General Order. There are fifteen sections grouped as follows - Force organization, Force administration, training on arms, parades and drills, complements, discipline and conduct, financial management, buildings and quarters, stores, communications and Force transport, staff welfare, crime and investigation, police duties – general, police bail and bond, detainees management and supervision of offenders, traffic law enforcement, political affairs and democratic activities, and prosecutions.

GENERAL CONDUCT

The General Orders dictate discipline and good conduct. No member of the Force shall act or behave in such a manner as to dishonor or disgrace him/herself in any way that can be associated with the Force.

PERFORMANCE OF BASIC DUTIES

These orders underpin the requirement that Members perform their basic duties and take appropriate action to preserve the public safety, prevent crime, detect and arrest law violators, protect life and property and enforce the laws in effective and efficient way. Members should do so to the best of their ability and in accordance with Force policies, procedures and orders. Performance standards are based on the following thresholds:

A. MAINTENANCE OF WORK COMPETENCY. All members shall maintain competency to properly perform their duties. Members are expected to know and enforce laws as their duties dictate.

B. PERFORMANCE OF BASIC DUTIES IN A COMPETENT MANNER. Members shall perform their assigned duties in a competent manner. Incompetence may be demonstrated by

- i. inadequacy knowledge of the laws to be enforced;
- ii. limited knowledge or an unwillingness to perform assigned tasks;
- iii. the failure to conform to work standards;
- iv. the failure to take appropriate action in response to a crime, incident or disorder; or
- v. written record of repeated infractions of policies, procedures, or orders.

USE OF DISCRETION

Common sense and reasonableness shall guide a member's use of discretion when the use of discretion is appropriate. A member must be faithful to applicable laws, the oath of office, the code of ethics, and the Force's vision, mission, goals and objectives in exercising discretionary judgment.

CONCLUSION

It is my belief that, as members of the Force, we must utilise our decisive strength and resources in fulfilling our objectives. It is crucial to note that the primary emphasis of General Orders is on promoting ethical behaviour consistent with the vision, mission, objectives and core values of the Force. It recognises that the Force is a field of complexities, which frequently present members of the Force with difficult theoretical, practical and ethical decisions. Thus the General Orders are intended to guide all members of the Force in situations where the right course of action may not always be clear.

It is in this regard that the following culture, guide the Force in its work:

- i. PROFESSIONALISM - Members will always meet expectations, be committed and discipline.
- ii. PATRIOTISM - Members will always be courageous, loyal and honest.
- iii. INTEGRITY - Members will always be trustworthy, unbiased and incorruptible.
- iv. INNOVATION - Members will always be creative, efficient, learner and effective.
- v. HONOUR - Members will always respect each other, to have unity and harmony.

It is my sincere hope that these General Orders will keep our behavior in check, keep us away from career and professional problems and guide us towards making our vision, mission, and objective a reality.

Dodoma,
9th March, 2021

SIMON NYAKORO SIRRO
Inspector General of Police