



Policy Chapter: Chapter 12 Campus Safety and Security

Policy Number and Title: 12.001 University Police Enforcement

I. Policy Statement

The University of North Texas Board of Regents has established a campus law enforcement agency with commissioned peace officers who, as specified in Section 105.152 of the Education Code, are empowered with the same jurisdiction, powers, privileges, and immunities as specified in section 51.203, Education Code.

II. Application of Policy

Total University

III. Policy Definitions

A. Law Enforcement Information

“Law Enforcement Information,” in this policy, means information that is written, produced, collected, assembled, or maintained by the UNT police department under a law or in connection with the transaction of law enforcement activities or other official business, including video and accompanying audio that shows department personnel engaging in law enforcement activities.

IV. Policy Responsibilities

A. Chief Law Enforcement Officer

1. The University President shall employ and commission a chief law enforcement officer, subject to confirmation by the Board of Regents, to direct the activities of the campus law enforcement agency. The chief law enforcement officer shall be a certified peace officer, meeting the requirements of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (Section 51.203(e), Education Code), or obtain such certification during the period specified by the Commission.
2. To assure the timely employment, training, and commissioning of peace officers, the Board of Regents delegates the authority to employ and commission peace officers to the chief law enforcement officer of the campus law enforcement agency. The chief law enforcement officer shall employ and commission peace officers in accordance with Section 51.203, Education Code. All officers so employed and commissioned shall meet, at a minimum, the requirements prescribed by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.
3. The chief law enforcement officer shall provide, through agency policies and directives, for the continuing education and training of the university’s campus peace officers to maintain each peace officer’s certification.

B. Scope of University Police Authority

All peace officers commissioned by the university are empowered by law to enforce the general and criminal laws of this State, as well as rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Regents that affect the safety and welfare of the university community. Those rules specifically include, but are not limited to, UNT policy in such areas as:

1. Protection of Building and Grounds (12.003) Workplace Violence (05.045)
2. Solicitation (04.013)
3. Use of Alcoholic Beverages (04.016) Vehicle Operation & Parking (12.004)

C. Release of Video and other Information

1. In keeping with the department's commitment to transparency and to fostering community trust in its law enforcement operations, the Chief of Police is authorized to release law enforcement information when disclosure is in the public interest.
2. Disclosure is in the public interests when:
 - a. the rights of an individual (including those of a victim, minor, witness, bystander, law enforcement officer or other third-party) do not outweigh the public interest in its disclosure;
 - b. disclosure will not compromise the integrity of an investigation or prosecution or investigative techniques; and
 - c. federal or state law does not require the university to withhold the information from disclosure.
3. Video and accompanying audio generally will be released within 24 hours following an incident except when it is necessary to redact images in order to protect confidentiality, rights of an individual, or the identity property shown in the video.
4. Prior to the release of law enforcement information to the public, the Chief of Police will notify the appropriate university and UNT System officials.

V. References and Cross-References

[Texas Education Code § 105.152](#)

[UNT Policy 04.013, Solicitation, Signs and Postings](#)

[UNT Policy 04.016, Use of Alcoholic Beverages](#)

[UNT Policy 05.045, Workplace Violence](#)

[UNT Policy 12.003, Protection of Building and Grounds](#)

[UNT Policy 12.004, Vehicle Operation and Parking](#)

VI. Revision History

Policy Contact:	Chief of Police
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