

## Oath of Office

### 102.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that, when appropriate, oaths are administered to agency members.

### 102.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office that, when appropriate, agency members affirm the oath of their office as an expression of commitment to the constitutional rights of those served by the Agency and the dedication of its members to their duties.

### 102.3 OATH OF OFFICE

All agency members, when appropriate, shall take and subscribe to the required oath or affirmation to the Clerk of the Circuit Court in addition to any other form of oath or affirmation required by the Maryland Constitution, state law or ordinance (Md. Const. Art. I § 9; Md. Code CJ § 2-104; Md. Code PS § 3-309). If a member is opposed to taking an oath, he/she shall be permitted to substitute the word "affirm" for the word "swear."

### 102.4 MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

The oath of office shall be filed as prescribed by law (Md. Const. Art. I § 10; Md. Code PS § 3-309).

### 102.5 SANCTITY OF LIFE PLEDGE

All deputies are required to sign an affirmative written sanctity of life pledge to respect every human life and act with compassion toward others (Md. PS § 3-524).