



Amherst Police Department
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The Town of Amherst Police Department has been a New York State Law Enforcement Accredited Agency since 1992. The Town of Amherst completes yearly compliance forms and is inspected by the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services every five years. Since 1992 the Town of Amherst Police Department has received re-accredited.

The NYS Law Enforcement Accreditation Program provides formal recognition that an agency meets or exceeds general expectations of quality in the field. The program has four principal goals:

- To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies utilizing existing personnel, equipment and facilities to the extent possible;
- To promote increased cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies and other agencies of the criminal justice system;
- To ensure the appropriate training of law enforcement personnel; and
- To promote public confidence in law enforcement.

In essence, accreditation acknowledges the implementation of policies that are conceptually sound and operationally effective. The cornerstone of the accreditation program lies in established standards that contain a clear statement of professional requirements. Agencies participating in the program conduct a thorough analysis of their organization to determine how existing operations can be adapted to meet established standards. When an agency adopts policies and procedures that meet the standards, a team of independent professionals conducts an on-site assessment to verify that all applicable standards have been successfully implemented. This process culminates with a decision by the NYS Law Enforcement Accreditation Council that the agency is worthy of accreditation.

There are currently 110 Standards in Police Operations, Administration, and Training. Below is a list of the critical standards that are assessed by NYS DCJS.

ADMINISTRATIVE STANDARDS

- 2.3 – Written Directives
- 2.7 – Responsibility and Authority
- 5.3 – Safeguarding Cash
- 6.2 – Safeguarding Agency Weapons
- 7.1 – Evidence and Non-Agency Property Management
- 7.3 – Property Audit and Inventory Management
- 8.7 – Records Management System
- 12.5 – Background Investigation
- 13.1 - Performance Evaluation System
- 14.1 – Rules of Conduct
- 14.4 – Disciplinary System
- 14.7 – Sexual Harassment
- 20.1 – Necessary Force
- 21.2 – Review of Force Causing Injuries
- 25.1 – Internal Affairs Function

TRAINING STANDARDS

- 33.1 – In-Service Training – Length and Content

OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

- 43.4 – Vehicle Pursuits
- 43.8 - Health of Persons in Custody
- 44.1 – Domestic Incidents
- 50.1 – Criminal Investigations
- 58.2 - Disaster Plans

