

6Hx19-1.43 Establishment, Authority, and Operation of the Pasco-Hernando College Police Department

Establishment of the College Police Department

The purpose of this District Board of Trustees (DBOT) Policy is to establish a law enforcement agency for Pasco-Hernando State College (College) to provide for the safety and security of people and property under the jurisdiction of the College, in accordance with Florida Law (FS 1012.88).

The DBOT hereby establishes the College Police Department (Department) as a law enforcement agency of the College. The Department shall operate under the authority granted to the DBOT by Florida Statutes and the rules of the State Board of Education (SBOE).

The Department is authorized to seek and obtain an Originating Agency Identifier (ORI) from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), and to operate in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, rules, and standards governing law enforcement agencies.

Authority and Jurisdiction

The Department shall have the authority to enforce applicable state, and local laws, and support College policies through education, compliance efforts, and, when necessary, enforcement actions consistent with Florida law.

Sworn law enforcement officers employed by the College shall have full law enforcement authority and powers of arrest on property owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the College, on adjacent streets and sidewalks, and as otherwise provided by Florida Statutes.

Sworn law enforcement officers are authorized to:

- Bear arms in the performance of their duties;
- Make arrests and issue citations;
- Enforce all applicable laws and ordinances;
- Pursue offenders beyond campus jurisdiction as provided by law; and
- Perform any other duties authorized by Florida Statutes.

The Department may enter into mutual aid agreements, interagency agreements, and cooperative arrangements with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies as necessary to fulfill its mission.

Duties and Responsibilities

The Department is responsible for providing comprehensive law enforcement services, including but not limited to:

- Protection of life and property;
- Prevention and detection of crime;
- Emergency response and incident management;
- Support of campus safety initiatives and threat management processes; and
- Compliance with the Clery Act and other applicable reporting requirements.

The Department shall operate in a manner consistent with the mission of the College and in alignment with applicable laws, rules, and accreditation standards.

Administration and Oversight

The Chief of Police shall be appointed by the College President or designee and shall serve as the executive officer of the Department.

The Chief of Police is responsible for the administration, supervision, and direction of all Department operations, including personnel, training, policy development, and compliance with applicable laws and standards.

The Department shall operate under the general oversight of the College President and in accordance with policies adopted by the DBOT.

Personnel Standards and Requirements

All sworn law enforcement officers shall meet the minimum standards established by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission and applicable provisions of Chapter 943, Florida Statutes.

All sworn officers shall take an oath of office as prescribed by law prior to assuming their duties.

The Department may employ sworn and non-sworn personnel as necessary to support operations, including civilian personnel assigned to administrative, technical, and operational support roles.

Policy Development and Compliance

The DBOT authorizes the development and implementation of policies and procedures necessary for the effective operation of the Department.

All Department policies shall comply with applicable federal and state laws, including those established by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Security Policy, and the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA), where applicable.

Rule Initially Adopted: 4/21/2026

Policy Review History: 4/21/2026

Legal Authority:

General Authority: FS: 1012.88; 943; 1001.64

Law Implemented: FS: 1012.88; 943; 1001.64