

POLICE GENERAL ORDERS

CHAPTER 1

ORDERS AND MANUALS

10/02

1-01 General

The interpretation and application of Police General Orders (PGOs) or other manuals are vested with respective Authorising Commanders. 01/11

2. Where a manual or an order is intended to be read by JPOs, its Chinese version should be made available.

3. The Director of Hong Kong Police College (D HKPC) is the administrative authority for the production and distribution of new manuals that are intended for Force-wide application. 01/06

1-02 Police General Orders

PGOs are made by the Commissioner of Police under Section 46 of the Police Force Ordinance, Cap. 232. 01/06
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2. PGOs are intended to be read in conjunction with the Government Regulations. Where there is a conflict between PGOs and the Government Regulations, the former prevails.

3. PGOs shall apply to all police officers except in so far as:-

- (a) the contrary intention appears in any particular PGO; or
- (b) the PGO is inconsistent with the provisions of the Basic Law or any Ordinance, or of any Regulation, Rule, By-law or Order etc. made or given under an Ordinance which applies to police officers; or
- (c) the officer is excluded by the terms of his employment from the operation of the PGOs.

4. PGOs are mandatory and non-compliance will make an officer liable to disciplinary action.

5. PGOs may be supplemented by Headquarters Orders (HQOs) which have equal validity.

6. Authorising Commanders should ensure that information or procedural matters are not incorporated in PGOs. 01/11

1-03 Force Procedures Manual

Force Procedures Manual (FPM) contains information, advice and guidelines on procedures. An officer not complying with FPM should be given suitable advice or guidance. Recurrent or blatant disregard for FPM renders an officer liable to disciplinary action.

01/06 1-04 Headquarters Orders

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04/12 The Commissioner may issue HQOs of a routine nature for the control, direction and information of the Force.

2. HQOs must not be inconsistent with PGOs.

01/07 3. A new HQO system and relevant procedures has been implemented since 1st April 2000. Except when reissued under the new system, all HQOs prior to 1st April 2000 were either cancelled, incorporated into the appropriate manuals or disseminated by other means.

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01/11 4. HQOs are subject to annual review by the Authorising Commanders if they have not already been incorporated into a PGO or other appropriate manual. PCS maintains a computer database of HQOs and provides an updated list to Authorising Commanders to facilitate their annual reviews. Authorising Commanders shall personally endorse a reply to PCS, stating that critical reviews have been conducted on HQOs under their purview, with justifications given if the old HQOs are still valid but have not been incorporated into a PGO, FPM or an appropriate manual.

1-05 Formation Standing and Internal Orders

A Formation Commander shall forward a copy of all of his Standing Orders to his Major Formation Commander.

2. A Major Formation Commander shall forward a copy of his Standing Orders to the Commissioner of Police.

3. Major Formation Commanders and Formation Commanders shall institute a B.U. system for updating their own Standing Orders.

13/11 4. These orders are not to be at variance with the Law or PGOs/FPMs.

1-06 Definitions of Formation and Unit Commander

'Commander' means an officer of any rank, including civilian equivalent, for the time being in charge of any body of Police.

'Commander(s)' include Senior Directorate officers who comprise the Commissioner, DCP OPS, DCP MAN, D C&S, DFAP, D OPS, DMS and DPT.

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'Major Formation Commander' is an officer of or above the rank of Assistant Commissioner in charge of a Region or Major Formation.

'Formation Commander' is a Chief Superintendent, Senior Superintendent, Superintendent or Chief Inspector in charge of a Formation, District or Division.

'Unit Commander' is a Superintendent, Chief Inspector or Inspector/Senior Inspector in charge of a station or other Unit.

'Sub-Unit Commander' is an Inspector/Senior Inspector or SSGT depending upon the circumstances.

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