



**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF POLICE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM
POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL**



Subject LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY			Policy Number 104
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I. PURPOSE

This written directive defines the law enforcement authority and responsibility of individuals commissioned as The University of Texas System Peace Officers.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the University of Texas System Police that all employees and peace officers will bear strict adherence to the United States and Texas Constitutions when fulfilling the duties of their position, so that the Constitutional Rights of all persons are protected.

III. WHO ARE POLICE OFFICERS

- A. The Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 2A, defines Peace Officers as: (8) Officers commissioned under Section 37.081 Education Code or Subchapter E. Chapter 51, Education Code.
- B. The Texas Education Code, Subchapter E., Section 51.203, defines Campus Police Officers:
 - 1. The Governing Boards of each state institution of higher education and public technical institute may employ and commission peace officers for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subchapter. The primary jurisdiction of a peace officer commissioned under this section includes all counties in which property is owned, leased, rented, or otherwise under the control of the institution of higher education or public technical institute that employs the peace officer.
 - 2. Any person commissioned under this act must be a certified police officer under the requirements of The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.

IV. DUTIES AND POWERS OF PEACE OFFICERS

- A. The Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 2A.051, provides the powers and duties of peace officers and law enforcement agencies.
- B. The Texas Education Code, Subchapter E., Section 51.203, provides the powers, privileges and immunities of peace officer to include:
 - 1. Within a peace officer's primary jurisdiction, a peace officer commissioned under this section:
 - a. Is vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities of peace officers;
 - b. May in accordance with Chapter 14, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, arrest without warrant any person who violates a law of the state; and
 - c. May enforce all traffic laws on streets and highways.
 - 2. Outside a peace officer's primary jurisdiction a peace officer commissioned under this section is vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities of peace officers and may arrest any person who violates any law of the state if the peace officer:
 - a. Is summoned by another law enforcement agency to provide assistance;
 - b. Is assisting another law enforcement agency; or
 - c. Is otherwise performing his duties as a peace officer for the institution of higher education or public technical institute that employs the peace officer.



Michael Parks
Executive Director of Police

Changes/Additions Since Last Publication

Revision to III. A. to update reference to Texas Code of Criminal Procedures. June 1, 2026

Revision to IV. A. to update reference to Texas Code of Criminal Procedures. June 1, 2026