

# **Grays Harbor Fire District 5**

## **STANDARD LEGISLATIVE POLICY**

NUMBER: 1000-14

Approved by: Board of Commissioners

SUBJECT: **OATH OF OFFICE**

Adoption date: December 10, 2015

### 1. PURPOSE:

To establish a uniform Oath of Office for Grays Harbor Fire Protection District No. 5 where members commit to provide service by way of a general standard to which our customers can measure the performance of Grays Harbor Fire Protection District No. 5.

### 2. RESPONSIBILITIES:

It shall be the responsibility of the Board of Commissioners Chairperson, or his/her designee, to administer the appropriate oath upon;

- 2.1 Firefighters oath upon graduation from the recruit academy.
- 2.2 Officers oath upon promotion to an officer rank.
- 2.3 Fire Chief's oath upon selection by the Board as Fire Chief.
- 2.4 District Secretary oath upon selection by the Board as District Secretary.
- 2.5 Commissioners oath during the first board meeting of each year or the first meeting of an appointed Commissioner. (Filed with County Auditor yearly)

### 3. GUIDELINES:

This policy applies to all members (recruits, firefighters, fire officers and support firefighters) upon in providing direct emergency service delivery and elected/appointed fire commissioners.

The Oath of Office will be initiated for all new members (recruits, firefighters, fire officers and support firefighters) upon completion of the badge pinning ceremony of any member by the Fire Chief or his/her designee. The Commissioner oath will be initiated yearly by the appointed District Secretary and filed with the County Auditor.

- 3.1 Members will stand, while raising his/her right hand recite the Oath of Office.

4. OATHS:

The following oaths shall be given and the appropriate form shall be signed:

**GRAYS HARBOR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
NO. 5  
FIRE COMMISSIONERS OATH OF OFFICE**

STATE OF WASHINGTON

COUNTY OF GRAYS HARBOR

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn upon oath, do depose and say, that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and Laws of the State of Washington, and faithfully and impartially discharge and perform the duties of Fire District Commissioners of Grays Harbor County, Washington,

I pledge to work cooperatively with other board members to govern the District, act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the office of fire commissioner, participate in establishing, maintaining, and enforcing high standards of conduct and personally observe those standards, manage and direct personnel only through the board, and will not attempt to unilaterally direct or manage personnel,

I pledge to understand, respect and uphold the District's adopted chain of command, lead by example, keep an open mind and not be afraid to say, "I don't know", get proper advise when appropriate, recognize and understand that my actions and most of my work will be in the public eye and will be scrutinized by the public,

I pledge to recognize that fire protection districts are municipal corporations and often cannot be managed the same way that I manage my personal business, according to the best of my ability, So help me God.

---

Signature

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

ATTEST:

---

Patty Smith  
District Secretary

**GRAYS HARBOR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
NO. 5  
FIRE CHIEF OATH OF OFFICE**

**STATE OF WASHINGTON**

**COUNTY OF GRAYS HARBOR**

**I, \_\_\_\_\_, as the Fire Chief of Grays Harbor Fire  
Protection District No. 5;**

**Pledge to carry out the duties of Fire Chief to the best of my ability, and will honor  
and respect the mission, goals, purpose and policies of Grays Harbor Fire Protection  
District No. 5;**

**And I pledge to promote and protect the best interest of Grays Harbor Fire  
Protection District No. 5 through fiscal responsibility, honesty, integrity and loyalty.**

**I will never allow personal feelings, nor danger to self, deter me from my  
responsibilities as Fire Chief;**

**I will at all times respect the property and rights of all men and women, the laws of  
my country, and the members I serve with;**

**I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith and trust, and I accept  
so long as I am true to the ethics of the fire service.**

**I do solemnly swear that I have all the qualifications required of my position and I  
accept this self-imposed and self-enforced obligation as my responsibility and make  
these promises so solemnly, freely, and upon my honor.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

**SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
\_\_\_\_\_.**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patty Smith  
District Secretary

**GRAYS HARBOR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
NO. 5  
FIRE OFFICER OATH OF OFFICE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby declare, that I will support the constitution of the United States, the constitution of the State of Washington, the members I serve with and that, as an officer of the Grays Harbor Fire Protection District No. 5, my fundamental duty is to serve the people I swear to protect, to safeguard and preserve life, health and property against fire and other perils, and to maintain a proficiency in the fire service.

As an Officer I will uphold the standards of my profession and position, continually searching for new and improved methods of serving the people and members of the District, and will share my knowledge and skills with my colleagues and firefighters I am assigned to lead.

I will never allow my personal feelings, nor danger to self, deter me from my responsibilities as a firefighter.

I will lead my fire company to the best of my ability with fairness and no prejudice.

I will at all times, respect the property and rights of all men and women, the laws of my country, and members I serve with.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of the Fire District and public faith and trust, and I accept so long as I am true to the ethics of the fire service.

I will constantly strive to achieve the objectives and ideas that the fire service instills, dedicating myself to the saving of life, preventing and suppressing fires and performing other duties enacted and placed on me.

As a member of the Grays Harbor Fire Protection District No. 5, I accept this self-imposed and self-enforced obligation as my responsibility and make these promises so solemnly, freely, and upon my honor.

---

Signature

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_.

ATTEST:

---

Dan Prater  
Fire Chief

**GRAYS HARBOR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
NO. 5  
FIREFIGHTER OATH OF OFFICE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby declare, that I will support the constitution of the United States, the constitution of the State of Washington, the members I serve with, and that, as a member of the Grays Harbor Fire Protection District No. 5, my fundamental duty is to serve the people I swear to protect, to safeguard and preserve life, health and property against fire and other perils, and to maintain a proficiency in the fire service.

I will uphold the standards of my profession, continually searching for new and improved methods of serving the people, and will share my knowledge and skill with my colleagues and descendants.

I will never allow my personal feelings, nor danger to self, deter me from my responsibilities as a firefighter.

I will at all times, respect the property and rights of all men and women, the laws of my country, and members I serve with.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith and trust, and I accept so long as I am true to the ethics of the fire service.

I will constantly strive to achieve the objectives and ideals that the fire service instills, dedicating myself to the saving of life, preventing and suppressing fires and performing other duties enacted and placed up to me.

As a member of the Grays Harbor Fire Protection District No. 5, I accept this self-imposed and self-enforced obligation as my responsibility and make these promises so solemnly, freely, and upon my honor

---

Signature

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

ATTEST:

---

Dan Prater  
Fire Chief