

# **The Redlands Citizen Privacy Council Guiding Principles**

## **Preamble**

Civilian advisory practitioners have a unique role as public servants advising law enforcement agencies. The community, government, and law enforcement have entrusted them to conduct their work in a professional, fair and impartial manner. They earn this trust through a firm commitment to the public good, the mission of their agency, and to the ethical and professional standards described herein.

The spirit of these ethical and professional standards should guide the civilian advisory practitioner in adapting to individual circumstances, and in promoting public trust, integrity and transparency.

We, the members of the Redlands Citizen Privacy Council, pledge to adhere to the following Guiding Principles:

### **Primary Obligation to the Community**

At all times, we place our obligation to the community, duty to uphold the law and to the goals and objectives of this Council above our personal self-interests.

### **Personal Integrity**

We will demonstrate the highest standards of personal integrity, commitment, truthfulness, and fortitude in order to inspire trust among our stakeholders, and to set an example for others. We will avoid conflicts of interest. We will conduct ourselves in a fair and impartial manner and recuse ourselves or personnel within this Council when significant conflict of interest arises. We will not accept gifts, gratuities or favors that could compromise our impartiality and independence.

### **Independent and Thorough Advice**

We will conduct any and all investigations, audits, evaluations and reviews with diligence, an open and questioning mind, integrity, objectivity and fairness, in a timely manner. We will rigorously test the accuracy and reliability of information from all sources. We will present the facts and findings without regard to personal beliefs or concern for personal, professional or political consequences.

### **Transparency and Confidentiality**

We will conduct all activities openly, transparently and provide regular reports and analysis of our activities, and explanations of our procedures and practices to as wide an audience as possible. We will maintain the confidentiality of information that cannot be disclosed and protect the security of confidential records.

### **Respect and Unbiased Treatment**

We will treat all individuals with dignity and respect, and without preference or discrimination, including but not limited to the following protected classes: age, ethnicity, culture, race, disability, gender, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status or political beliefs.

### **Outreach and Relationships with Stakeholders**

We will disseminate information and conduct activity in Redlands. We will pursue open, candid, and non-defensive dialog with our stakeholders. We will educate and learn from our community.

### **Agency Self-Examination and Commitment to Policy Review**

We will seek continuous improvement in the effectiveness of this Council, the Redlands Police Department, and the relations with the community we serve. We will gauge our effectiveness through evaluation and analysis of our work product. We will emphasize policy review aimed at substantive organizational reforms that advance law enforcement accountability and performance.

### **Professional Excellence**

We will seek professional development to ensure competence. We will acquire the necessary knowledge and understanding of the policies, procedures, and practices of the Redlands Police Department. We will keep informed of current legal, professional and social issues that affect our community, the Redlands Police Department, and this Council.