



CITY OF GIDDINGS

Police Department

179 E. Industry Street, Giddings, Texas 78942
Office (979) 540-2700
Fax (979) 542-1816

The Giddings Police Department is dedicated to providing quality service to our community. It is our responsibility to uphold the law and respect the fundamental rights of all citizens. Officers are expected to conduct themselves professionally and without bias.

Citizens are encouraged to discuss any complaint with a supervisor first. In my experience, most complaints are resolved at this level. All complaints against a Giddings Police Officer will be reviewed by the Chief of Police. However, in order for an officer to receive any disciplinary action, a citizen must follow a few easy steps:

1. The complaint may be on the attached Citizen Complaint Form, or by any other written form; however, the complaint must be notarized and contain the following acknowledgement prior to signature:
"I certify that the above information is true and correct under the penalty of perjury. I understand that I am asking the appropriate authority to initiate a criminal and/or civil investigation into the matter(s) in which I am reporting. Furthermore, I understand that falsification of this sworn statement or any other document regarding this matter is a felony under the Texas Penal Code, punishable by imprisonment in an institutional division for any term of not more than ten (10) years or less than two (2) years. In addition to imprisonment, an individual adjudged guilty of the felony of the 3rd degree may be punished by a fine not to exceed \$10,000. I certify that the above information I have given is TRUE and CORRECT."
2. In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 614.022, the complaint MUST be in writing and signed by the person complaining. A department employee can notarize it for you (you must sign in the Notary's presence).
3. The officer has the right to receive a copy of the complaint.

Your complaint will be reviewed by the Chief of Police and assigned to an investigator, typically the officer's supervisor. If the complaint is criminal in nature, a detective or outside source may be utilized. The investigator may want to contact you if clarification or more information is needed. Once the investigation is complete, you will be contacted with the findings.

Respectfully,

William Weems, Chief of Police
Giddings Police Department



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In accordance with Government Code, Chapter 614, Peace Officers and Fire Fighters:

COMPLAINT AGAINST LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OR FIRE FIGHTER

Sec. 614.022 COMPLAINT TO BE IN WRITING AND SIGNED BY COMPLAINANT. To be considered by the head of a state agency or by the head of a fire department or local law enforcement agency, the complaint must be:

1. in writing; and
2. signed by the person making the complaint.

Added by Acts 1993, 73rd Leg., ch.268, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1993.

Amended by: Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 507 (H.B. 639), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2005.

Sec. 614.023. COPY OF COMPLAINT TO BE GIVEN TO OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE.

- (a) A copy of a signed complaint against a law enforcement officer of this state or a fire fighter, detention officer, county jailer, or peace officer appointed or employed by a political subdivision of this state shall be given to the officer or employee within a reasonable time after the complaint is filed.
- (b) Disciplinary action may not be taken against the offer or employee unless a copy of the signed complaint is given to the officer or employee.
- (c) In addition to the requirement of Subsection (b), the officer or employee may not be indefinitely suspended or terminated from employment based on the subject matter of the complaint unless:
 1. The complaint is investigated; and
 2. There is evidence to prove the allegation of misconduct.

Added by Acts 1993, 73rd Leg., ch. 268, Sec. 1, eff. Sept.1, 1993

Amended by: Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 507 (H.B. 639), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2005.

