PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

HEADQUARTERS

209 FOUNTAIN STREET

PROVIDENCE, RI 02903

COLONEL URBANO PRIGNANO, JR.

CHIEF OF POUR

December 19, 1996

GENERAL ORDER #56 SERIES OF 1996

TO: All Commanding Officers

The purpose of this General Order is to provide members of this Department with information concerning a recent amendment to the Gun Control Act of 1968, and to emphasize department policy concerning the carrying of a firearm.

Effective September 30, 1996 it shall be unlawful for any person convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence to ship, transport, possess or receive firearms or ammunition. It is also unlawful for any person to sell or otherwise dispose of a firearm or ammunition to any person knowing or having reasonable causes to believe that the recipient has been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence. This provision applies to persons convicted at any time prior to or after the passage of the September 30, 1996 law. Moreover, there is no exemption for law enforcement officers or agents.

Simply stated, any police officer who has been <u>convicted</u> of a misdemeanor domestic violence crime either prior to or after September 30, 1996 cannot now transport, possess, receive, etc., either a firearm or ammunition. It is also unlawful for this department to knowingly issue a firearm and ammunition to an officer knowing or having reason to believe has been so convicted.

The <u>carrying of a firearm is a condition of continued employment</u> with this Department. Any member unable to carry a firearm due to the passage of this new law, or any member unable to carry a firearm for any non-work related reason will be subject to dismissal from the Providence Police Department.

Commanding Officers are to ascertain if any members of their individual commands fall under this new law and report all such cases to the Department Inspector.

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Commanding Officers are to advise all members of their individual commands of this new law, and any member of this department who does not fully understand the contents of this order is to further discuss this with their respective commanding officer.

This General Order is to be posted on all Department bulletin boards for the next ten days (10) days, and read at all roll calls for the next five (5) days.

APPROVED:

JOHN J. PARTINGTON

Commissioner

Department of Public Safety

URBANO PRIGNANO, JI

Colonel

Chief of Police