

STATE UNIVERSITIES CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM
Original Entry or Promotional Examination for
POLICE SERIES

ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE POLICE SERIES TEST ADMINISTRATORS, PROCTORS,
AND STRUCTURED ORAL INTERVIEW/BOARD ASSESSORS AND
APPLICANTS/CANDIDATES

In order to ensure fair and consistent treatment of applicants for policing positions and to maintain the confidentiality of examination materials and the testing process, the following guidelines are to be reviewed and strictly followed by all test administrators, proctors, and assessors assigned to administer any component of the Police Series examination instruments and applicants/candidates.

Civil Service Act

Section 37 of the State Universities Civil Service Act (Civil Service Act) (110 ILCS 70/37) is intended to protect the interests of persons who take Civil Service examinations so that no person may gain special advantage by having improper access to the examination material. Section 37 of the Civil Service Act provides, in relevant part:

No person or officer shall willfully or corruptly, by himself, or in cooperation with one or more persons, defeat, deceive or obstruct any person in respect to his or her right of examination hereunder; or corruptly or falsely mark, grade, estimate or report upon the examination or proper standing of any person examined hereunder or aid in so doing; or willfully or corruptly make any false representation concerning the same or concerning the person examined; **or willfully or corruptly furnish to any person any special or secret information for the purpose of either improving or injuring the prospects or chances of any person so examined, or to be examined, being appointed, employed or promoted** (*emphasis added*).

Confidentiality

Police Series test administrators, proctors and assessors, should protect confidential examination information and avoid disclosures that may influence the integrity of any component in the examination process. They should not reveal the nature or content of any question appearing on the examination, or any examination procedure, to any individual or entity, and should report to the University System any solicitations or disclosures of which they become aware. They should not reproduce or disseminate any portion of the confidential examination materials provided to them from the University System or the employing University, which include materials contained in the Assessor packets used by those participating in the Structured Oral Interview/Structured Oral Board. They should not duplicate or retain in any form the original or copies of the confidential examination materials. Any breach of such confidentiality, on review of the situation in its entirety, may result in removal of the test administrator, proctor, and/or assessor from the panel of approved proctors and assessors, and require the matter to be referred to the employing University and/or the Office of the Executive Inspector General for further action.

ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE POLICE SERIES TEST ADMINISTRATORS, PROCTORS,
AND STRUCTURED ORAL INTERVIEW/BOARD ASSESSORS AND
APPLICANTS/CANDIDATES (continued)

Applicants/Candidates should not reveal the nature or content of any question appearing on the examination, or any examination procedure, to any individual or entity, and should report to the University System any solicitations or disclosures of which they become aware. They should not duplicate or retain in any form the original or copies of the confidential examination materials. Any breach of such confidentiality, on review of the situation in its entirety, may result in voiding of his/her examination, removal of candidate from register, and require the matter to be referred to the employing University, University System Office, and/or the Office of the Executive Inspector General for further action.

Security of Structured Oral Interview/Board Materials

Structured Oral Interview/Structured Oral Board examination materials must be handled and stored in a manner that prevents access to unauthorized persons. Police Series structured oral interview/board assessors have a continuing obligation to exercise all reasonable precautions to preserve the security of examination materials in their possession. They are expected to make the necessary arrangements to safeguard the examination materials, which may require ensuring the examination materials are only printed as needed and placed in a locked container until use. All testing materials should be destroyed subsequent to the end of the testing period.

Any assessor who learns of any breach of security or copying of materials should immediately report it to the University System. Assessors are expected to return all examination materials immediately following the examination. University System auditors may inquire about the implementation of test security procedures during a regularly scheduled University System audit.

Conflict of Interest

Assessors should excuse themselves from rating any applicant when, in the judgment of the assessor, it would be difficult to rate the applicant impartially. For example, assessors should not participate in rating an applicant who is related to them or in rating an applicant if any strong personal or working association exists between them and that applicant. Assessors should excuse themselves from any situation that would make it difficult to provide an impartial rating or that would create an appearance of impropriety. Any challenge or concern raised by an applicant or an assessor should be made immediately prior to the **start of the** examination and brought to the attention of the Human Resources office, if the examination is conducted at the University, or to the University System staff, if the examination is conducted by University System staff or at the University System Office.

Code of Conduct

Test administrators, proctors, and assessors should not engage in actions which may constitute an actual, apparent, or potential conflict of interest with the integrity of the examination process. Test administrators, proctors, and assessors are entrusted with confidential information and are required to exercise their duties solely in the interest of administering an examination process based on merit and fitness and therefore they must avoid any situation where that trust would be violated. Even the appearance of impropriety must be avoided in order to maintain integrity and confidence in the examination process.