



# **MEMORANDUM** **OF UNDERSTANDING**

*Between The Representatives  
Of The Costa Mesa Police Association  
And The City of Costa Mesa*

2004  
2007

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**ARTICLE 1 - RECOGNITION/PREAMBLE**

1.1 By resolution of the City Council of the City of Costa Mesa, and pursuant to the provisions of the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act, California Government Code Section 3500, et seq., the City of Costa Mesa (hereinafter referred to as "CITY") recognizes the Costa Mesa Police Association (hereinafter referred to as "ASSOCIATION" or "CMPA") as the exclusive representative and the agent for collective bargaining purposes of the sworn police officers employed in the Costa Mesa Police Department in the job classifications set forth below, excluding all non-sworn employees of said Police Department.

1.2 This Memorandum of Understanding ("M.O.U.") has been prepared by representatives of the City and representatives of the Association who have met and conferred in good faith, examining a number of proposals and counter proposals concerning wages, hours of employment, working conditions, fringe benefits and other terms and conditions of employment for the sworn officers of the Costa Mesa Police Department as defined herein. The Parties to this M.O.U. are the City and the Association, which are jointly recognized and referred to herein below as the "PARTIES."

1.3 It is the mutual understanding of the City and the Association that this M.O.U. shall be submitted to the Costa Mesa City Council upon the joint recommendations of the Parties that the terms and conditions of this M.O.U. be adopted and that said City Council will take such action as may be needed to implement this agreement and its provisions.

1.4 The City and the Association hereby acknowledge that the terms of this M.O.U. may not cover all terms of employment relating to wages, hours and conditions of employment at the City of Costa Mesa. These parties further acknowledge that any term or condition of employment which is not expressly covered herein, but is expressly covered by existing ordinances, resolutions, policies and regulations of the City, including the Personnel Rules and Regulations presently in effect, shall be controlled by the existing provisions of said ordinances, resolutions, policies, and regulations to the extent that said policies and regulations do not change, abrogate, modify or amend any express term of this M.O.U. All other terms and conditions of employment in effect at the time of execution of this MOU shall remain status quo during the term hereof, unless such a term or condition is excepted from collective bargaining and the scope of representation as set forth in California Government Code 3504 or constitutes an emergency matter as set forth in California Government Code 3504.5.

1.5 The City and the Association agree that all material terms and conditions of previous M.O.U.'s have been complied with, and are hereby discharged and superseded by the adoption of this M.O.U.

1.6 If any portion of this M.O.U. is found to be unlawful, in conflict or inconsistent with existing laws, regulations, or ordinances; or determined to be invalid or unenforceable by an administrative or judicial tribunal with competent jurisdiction, such portion or part of the M.O.U. shall be superseded and not enforced. The remainder of this M.O.U. shall continue in full force and effect, and shall be enforced through the term of the agreement pursuant to Government Code Section 3500, et seq.

1.7 For the term of this M.O.U. neither the City nor the Association shall be compelled to meet and confer with the each other concerning any issue which is expressly agreed to herein. Each Party to the M.O.U. hereby expressly waives its right to demand that the other Party meet and confer concerning any issue expressly agreed to herein. However, nothing in this M.O.U. shall prohibit these Parties from meeting and conferring over any expressly agreed issue herein, if, and only if, both Parties hereto mutually agree to do so.

1.8 Continuous, uninterrupted and efficient service to the community by the City and its employees, and orderly employer-employee relations are essential considerations of this M.O.U. Accordingly, the Association agrees, on behalf of itself and its members, individually and collectively, that there shall not be any strikes, non-informational picketing, boycotting, work stoppages, slow-down strikes, or any other concerted job action or refusal to render services, including overtime or any other curtailment or restriction of work and service at any time during the term of this M.O.U.

1.9 The Association recognizes its duty and obligation to comply with the provisions of Section 1.8 of this M.O.U., and shall make every reasonable effort to assure that all employees covered by this M.O.U. similarly do so. In the event of any concerted activity by employees in contravention to the provisions or intent of Section 1.8, the Association hereby agrees to direct its members to cease any such actions or activities forthwith. No employee covered by this M.O.U. shall be entitled to any benefits or wages whatsoever while engaged in any activities or actions prohibited by Section 1.8 of the M.O.U.

## **ARTICLE 2 - TERM OF AGREEMENT**

The term of this MOU will commence on September 1, 2004, and expire in the payperiod that includes August 31, 2007.

## **ARTICLE 3 - BASIC SALARIES AND WAGES**

3.1. Employees covered by this Agreement shall be compensated at the established monthly base salary rates under the Basic Pay Schedule for covered employees. All positions under this Schedule shall be assigned a range number established by the City Council resolution.

First Year of the Agreement - Effective the pay period that includes September 1, 2004, the City will adjust the monthly base salary for members of the Association represented by the Police Officer benchmark by the median fair wage increase, utilizing the "traditional" total compensation calculation, less 3%. This results in an adjustment of 4.5% for the first year. Classifications represented by the Sergeant benchmark will receive a 3.45% adjustment for the first year.

Second Year of the Agreement – Effective the pay period that includes September 1, 2005, the City will adjust salaries utilizing a "revised" total compensation calculation (based upon marketplace data available as of July 31) and/or a "revised" definition of affordability. The adjustment will be the greater of: 1) the median fair wage increase less 2%, or 2) affordability. (This calculation will not result in a reduction of existing wages.)

Third Year of the Agreement - Effective the pay period that includes September 1, 2006, the City will adjust salaries utilizing the "revised" total compensation calculation (based upon marketplace data available as of July 31) and/or the "revised" definition of affordability. The adjustment will be the greater of: 1) the median fair wage, or 2) affordability. (This calculation will not result in a reduction of existing wages.)

3.2 AFFORDABILITY - CMPA agrees to meet with the City and other employee associations from January 1, 2005 to June 1, 2005, to mutually develop a redefinition of "affordability" that will be applied in the salary-setting process. If a revised definition cannot be mutually agreed upon, the existing affordability factor will remain in effect.

3.3 TOTAL COMPENSATION - CMPA agrees to meet with the City and the other employee associations from January 1, 2005 to June 1, 2005, to mutually examine the elements of "total compensation". If a revised definition cannot be mutually agreed upon, the existing total compensation calculation will remain in effect.

In the event that any other City employee association has a negotiated agreement that implements a different total compensation calculation method that results in a better salary adjustment, CMPA will be treated with the same calculation method as that other association.

3.4. THREE PHASES - The City and the Association have agreed upon a basis of compensation which is revenue sensitive and recognizes mutual interests. The City will adjust salary ranges for the following classifications: Police Officer, Senior Police Officer, Corporal , Police Sergeant, Helicopter Sergeant, and Police Helicopter Pilot. The basis of compensation for these classifications includes implementation of three phases:

- Phase I - The City will use the median salary of the benchmark survey public safety agencies for the top step Police Officer and Police Sergeant (Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Irvine, Newport Beach, Santa Ana and the Orange County Sheriff's Department comprise the agencies used in the survey) to determine a median fair wage. It is agreed that the median will be defined as the average of the number 3 and 4 agencies for total compensation, excluding the City of Costa Mesa. Total compensation shall be defined as mutually agreed upon through the process defined in Section 3.3. However, if a revised definition cannot be mutually agreed upon, the existing definition of total compensation calculation will remain in effect. Total compensation is defined to include top-step base salary, employer-paid member retirement contribution, medical, dental, life, long-term disability, retirement supplement costs, and P.O.S.T./education/performance incentive pay, if applicable. The City will use Costa Mesa's actuarial cost (9.083%) for the PERS 3%@50 retirement enhancement in all of the total compensation calculations for any agency within the established marketplace that has that benefit (Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Irvine, Newport Beach and Santa Ana).
- Phase II- Affordability shall be defined as mutually agreed upon through the process defined in Section 3.2. However, if a revised definition cannot be mutually agreed upon, the existing affordability factor will remain in effect as follows: The City will use the most recent Chapman University Economic and Business Review/Forecast Update Report published in June of each year and the most recent Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index (CPI) to determine affordability. The Orange County economic indicators from the Chapman Report shall be limited to - Orange County Variables - Annual History and Forecasts Year-to-Year Percentage Changes Total Non-agricultural Employment and Total Taxable Sales from the previous year end (estimated actuals). The Department of Labor's actual December Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for the Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside region will also be used. The actual calculation is as follows: add Non-Agricultural Employment to Taxable Sales, and subtract Consumer Price Index, and the result is the affordability index.
- Phase III - For the second year of the agreement, the City will adjust salaries utilizing a revised total compensation calculation and/or a revised definition of affordability. The adjustment will be the greater of: 1) the median fair wage increase less 2%, or 2) affordability. For the third year of the agreement, the City will adjust salaries utilizing the revised total compensation calculation and/or the revised definition of

affordability. The adjustment will be the greater of: 1) the median fair wage increase, or 2) affordability. The salary adjustments will be implemented for the benchmark classes of Police Officer (also for Senior Police Officer, Corporal and Police Helicopter Pilot), and Sergeant (also for Helicopter Sergeant).

#### **ARTICLE 4 - HEALTH INSURANCE**

- 4.1 The City shall continue to provide the amounts listed below as payment of insurance or benefit premiums for employees covered by this Agreement, pursuant to the rules controlling IRS Section 125 Benefit Plan, and in compliance with the rules controlling any individual plan. The current core benefits under the M.O.U. include life and long term disability insurance. Medical insurance provided by the Public Employees' Medical Health Care Act (PEMHCA) is a required core benefit. A City employee can elect to waive this coverage if the employee is covered by other insurance such as his or her spouse's medical insurance.
- 4.2 The City will contribute \$426 per month towards each employee's flexible benefit account.
- 4.3 **QUALIFICATION FOR FLEX CONTRIBUTION** - Employees must receive compensation for the entire payperiod to receive the flexible benefit contribution amount. Use of accrued leave qualifies as compensation for this purpose. Employees will be ineligible for the flexible benefit contribution if the employee records absence without pay hours within the payperiod except for the following reasons:
- If an employee exhausts his/her accrued leaves prior to the end of the payperiod, he/she shall receive the flex contribution for that payperiod.
  - Disciplinary actions will not apply to this article/qualification i.e. suspensions without pay.

#### **ARTICLE 5 – RETIREMENT**

5.1 The California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) Local Safety retirement benefit of "3% at 50" Program provides retirement benefits to eligible safety employees. The City shall pay each affected employee's California PERS normal member contribution into each affected employee's account with PERS, and include this payment within the employee's compensation earnable that is reported to PERS. The City pays the employees' 9% contribution to the retirement program and this amount shall be added to the base salary as defined in Article 3.1.

#### **ARTICLE 6 - RETIREMENT SUPPLEMENT**

The City will continue to provide the retirement supplement to all retirees currently receiving the supplement. The value of the retirement supplement contribution was reported to CalPERS as special compensation.

### **ARTICLE 7 - RETIREE MEDICAL**

7.1 Consistent with the Costa Mesa City Council Policy 300-1, effective August 19, 2003, the Council Policy established a new *Defined Contribution Retirement Health Savings Plan* (Plan). The Plan went into effect January 1, 2004. The purpose of the Plan was to establish a tax protected savings program for every full-time employee that will:

- Provide a retiree medical benefit for employees hired after January 1, 2004 who will not be eligible for the health insurance contribution under the Council Policy 300-1.
- Provide a supplemental benefit to the City contribution under Council Policy 300-1 for current employees (hired before January 1, 2004).

The program will require mandatory participation by all full-time employees. Employees will make a monthly contribution to the plan equal to 1% of their base monthly salary, which will be matched by a 1% salary monthly contribution from the City into employees' accounts. The account assets that accumulate, plus investment earnings, will be used in retirement to pay health insurance premiums and other eligible out-of-pocket medical expenses such as deductibles, co-payments, vision care or dental care. Employee contributions plus vested employer contributions will be portable if an employee should leave employment with Costa Mesa prior to retirement.

### **ARTICLE 8 - BENEFIT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

The Association shall maintain two representatives on the City's Benefit Review Committee. The Committee continually evaluates the City's benefit programs and makes recommendations on plan changes, benefit levels, payroll deductions and the addition or deletion of plans. Participation on the Benefit Review Committee meets the City's obligation to negotiate with the associations on changes to the City's group benefit plans unless an association determines that such changes are detrimental to the interest of its members.

### **ARTICLE 9 - DRUG TESTING POLICY**

The Costa Mesa Police Department Drug Testing Policy was implemented for all sworn positions in July 1993. The testing permits reasonable suspicion testing for permanent staff and random testing for probationary employees. Specific technical details of the policy that were agreed upon by Police - Management and the Association in conjunction with Risk Management remain effective as part of this MOU, and are incorporated herein by reference.

### **ARTICLE 10 - P.O.S.T. INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

10.1 Full-time employees employed in the classifications of Police Officer, Senior Police Officer, Corporal, Police Helicopter Pilot, Police Sergeant, or Helicopter Sergeant are eligible to participate in this P.O.S.T. Certificate Program upon meeting the following criteria. According to California Code of Regulations Sections 571(a) and (b) the special pay herein will be reported to CalPERS as special compensation.

INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE

Provides compensation at a rate which is 5% above basic monthly salary as provided on the basic salary schedule to qualifying officers.

## CRITERIA

1. The minimum sworn police experience as determined by the State of California Commission on Police Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.).
2. Successful completion of initial probation as a sworn officer with the Costa Mesa Police.
3. An average job performance rating of “meets standards” or better during the most recent three performance reviews with the Costa Mesa Police Department. Meets standards rating shall be determined by the Chief of Police.
4. Possession of an Intermediate Certificate from the State of California Commission on Police Officer Standards and Training.
5. Have completed a minimum of 24 hours of P.O.S.T. approved schooling or equivalent every two years.
6. Make application and obtain departmental approval.

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE

Provides compensation at a rate which is 10% above basic monthly salary step as provided on the basic salary schedule to qualifying officers.

## CRITERIA

1. The minimum sworn police experience as determined by the State of California Commission on Police Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.).
2. Successful completion of initial probation as a sworn officer with the Costa Mesa Police Department.
3. An average job performance rating of “meets standards” or better during the most recent three performance reviews with the Costa Mesa Police Department. Meets standards rating to be determined by the Chief of Police.
4. Possession of an Advanced Certificate from the State of California Commission on Police Officer Standards and Training.
5. Have completed a minimum of 24 hours of P.O.S.T. approved schooling or equivalent every two years.
6. Make application and obtain departmental approval.

10.2 The acceptance or rejection of any application of any employee for this incentive program shall be the responsibility of the Department director. The department director, in considering the application of an employee for an incentive under the P.O.S.T. Certificate Program, shall examine the officer’s length



of service, P.O.S.T. Certificate Award, training records and performance evaluations, to determine if the employee has, in his/her opinion, successfully met the minimum standards outlined. If the Department director determines that the minimum qualifications have been met then he or she shall forward a personnel action form to Personnel so that the appropriate incentive award can be granted. If the employee has not, in the opinion of the department director, successfully met these requirements, the application shall be rejected.

10.3 The Department director shall have the final responsibility of granting any award under this Program for which application is made, after considering the application and other relevant factors, including determinations, relevant documents and recommendations. An award may be granted, rejected or removed at any time.

### **ARTICLE 11 - TUITION REIMBURSEMENT**

11.1 Tuition and/or textbook costs required to complete job-related educational courses which are taken by an employee and which pertain directly to his or her City employment, may be reimbursed to the employee if reimbursement is recommended by the employee's department director and approved by the Administrative Services Director. The employee on whose behalf the recommendation is made must also maintain a passing grade which is verified by the Personnel Division's receipt of an official copy of the employee's grades prior to any reimbursement.

11.2 The City will reimburse up to \$500 per semester and \$1,000 maximum per fiscal year for qualifying educational expenses.

### **ARTICLE 12 - OVERTIME**

12.1 Employees will be compensated only for overtime authorized in advance by an appropriate supervisor. Generally, overtime shall be discouraged unless absolutely necessary.

12.2 Employees will not be eligible for overtime compensation during the same 24-hour day in which they have taken or utilized paid leave time (i.e. vacation, sick, holiday, compensatory time) unless the employee receives prior approval from the Department director or designee. If the employee has utilized less than a full shift of paid leave time, he or she will only be compensated for overtime pay (1 1/2) when they exceed their regularly scheduled hours during that work day or shift. Any compensatory time remaining in the employee's bank will be bought down to 40 hours maximum on the final pay period of that calendar year.

12.3 The Chief of Police has discretion over the establishment of an overtime policy and procedure that will be implemented if compensatory time off requests reduce staffing below minimum staffing levels. The Chief agrees to meet and consult with CMPA before implementing this overtime policy and procedure. All employees (on a first come, first served basis) who submit a request for time off may utilize accrued compensatory time off ("CTO"), provided their vacancy does not result in less than minimum staffing levels on the shift they are scheduled to work.

12.4 A written request for Compensatory Time Off (CTO) shall be made and approved no later than 24 hours prior to the requested time off. The Watch Commander/Team Sergeant of the individual requesting C.T.O. shall approve or deny the request. This policy is subject to suspension in emergency situations or at the discretion of the Chief of Police or his/her designee. Employees assigned to rotating shifts may

not submit a CTO request more than 30 calendar days in advance of the shift rotation in which the CTO day off would fall.

12.5 The practice of shift trading shall be voluntary on behalf of each employee involved in the trade. The trade must be due to the employee's desire or need to attend to a personal matter and not due to the department's operations. The employee providing the trade shall not have his/her compensable hours increased as a result of the trade; nor shall the employee receiving the trade have his/her compensable hours decreased as a result of the trade. Any hours worked beyond the normal workday will be credited to the individual actually doing the work. "Paybacks" of shift trades are the obligation of the two employees involved in the trade. Paybacks are to be completed within the shift deployment of the initial shift trade. Any dispute as to paybacks is to be resolved by the involved employees, and under no circumstances will the department be obligated for any further compensation whatsoever to any of the involved employees. The department is not responsible in any manner for hours owed to employees by other employees that leave the employment of the City or are assigned other duties. Shift trades are not subject to the grievance procedure. If one individual fails to appear for the other (regardless of the reason), the person who was "traded in" will be listed as absent without leave and may be subject to disciplinary action. A record of all initial shift trades and "paybacks" shall be maintained by the involved employees on forms provided by the department ("Shift Trade Log").

12.6 Fills for overtime shifts shall first be available to full-time members of the Division having the overtime and within the same classification, police officer for police officer (includes: Police Officer, Senior Police Officer and Corporal) sergeant for sergeant and lieutenant for lieutenant. Superior ranking officers may fill a lower ranking position if it has not been filled a minimum of 48 hours prior to the start of the scheduled shift, or if it is the only available means of filling the vacancy. Superior ranking employees may only voluntarily fill an overtime shift vacancy in their immediate subordinate rank (e.g. Sergeant may fill for an Officer or Corporal vacancy and Lieutenant may fill a Sergeant vacancy).

12.6 Members of the Department may sign up for overtime outside their Division, however, they may be bumped out of the overtime assignment up to forty eight (48) hours before the shift begins by a full time member of the Division with the need for the overtime.

12.7 A bumping employee shall attempt to notify the bumped employee by telephone, and he or she shall also provide a written memo to the bumped employee's Department mail box or office. The bumping employee shall also notify and provide a copy of the written memo to the acting Watch Commander or Bureau Commander. The acting Watch Commander or Bureau Commander shall make a notation of the bump in the respective schedule books and retain a copy of the written memo.

12.8 Employees who sign up for overtime outside their Division shall contact the acting Watch Commander or Bureau Commander within twenty-four (24) hours prior to the commencement of the overtime shift which they have signed up for to determine if they have been bumped.

12.9 All overtime which exceeds forty (40) hours shall be posted on the overtime board appropriate for the Division/Bureau. The overtime will be available to be filled based on the above defined process.

12.10 Once an employee has signed up to work an overtime shift, it is that employee's responsibility to ensure the shift is filled. Employees may only remove their name from a shift they have volunteered to work if they have found a replacement or they receive prior approval from a ranking supervisor.

**ARTICLE 13 - SPECIALTY ASSIGNMENT PAY**

13.1 The City and Association recognize that special assignments out of the scope of the covered classifications of Police Officer, Senior Police Officer, Corporal, Police Helicopter Pilot, Police Sergeant, and Helicopter Sergeant will at times be required for the efficient operation of the department, and therefore these special assignments and their associated specialty assignment compensation are listed below. According to California Code of Regulations Sections 571(a) and (b) the premium and special pays herein will be reported to CalPERS as special compensation.

13.2 **FIELD TRAINING OFFICER PAY** - The City will continue paying selected Police Officers Field Training Officer (FTO) assignment pay (5% of base salary) on an as needed basis, if the compliment of Corporals are insufficient to meet the training needs of the Department. This FTO assignment pay will be paid while the employee is assigned and scheduled to provide training. The minimum period of time an employee will be authorized to receive the pay is one (1) shift.

13.3 **UNIFORM ASSIGNMENT PAY** - Employees in the classifications of Senior Police Officer, Corporal and Police Sergeant who are regularly assigned to uniform automobile/motorcycle patrol, helicopter bureau or traffic enforcement shall receive uniform assignment pay (2.5% of base salary). Employees, assigned to patrol or traffic enforcement for less than 14 consecutive days shall not be eligible for Uniform Assignment Pay. All police officers who are receiving Uniform Assignment Pay upon the effective date of this agreement shall continue to receive such pay. Uniform pay shall also be applicable to employees in the Police Officer classification who are regularly assigned to uniform automobile/motorcycle patrol or traffic enforcement after three years of service with the City of Costa Mesa

13.4 **MOTORCYCLE ASSIGNMENT PAY** - Employees in the classifications of Police Officer, Senior Police Officer, and Police Sergeant when assigned motorcycle duty shall receive 5% over his or her assigned rate per shift. Additionally, one motorcycle trainer shall receive 5% incentive pay while in temporary assignment to perform routine safety checks. Each employee assigned to motorcycle duty shall maintain his or her motorcycle in an acceptable state as determined by Police Management and will be compensated three hours at time and a half at the top step base salary for the Senior Police Officer classification each payperiod for the motorcycle maintenance.

13.5 **CANINE ASSIGNMENT** - Employees assigned to canine duty, and who are responsible for an active duty canine will receive 6 hours of compensatory time each pay period in a manner consistent with current practice if the employee is assigned to care and feed for the animal.

13.6 **BILINGUAL PAY** - Applicable only to employees in the job classifications determined by the City Manager and when so assigned using their bilingual abilities as part of their regular job assignment: 5% of the top step base salary for the Senior Police Officer classification. Employees who are approved and assigned by their department director to utilize bilingual skills, which includes Spanish, Vietnamese and any other language approved by the Administrative Services Director must be certified by their department director and may be tested by Personnel annually to verify their language proficiency in order to maintain eligibility for said compensation. The City shall establish a second level of proficiency, designed for employees who are capable of "speaking only" and shall receive 2.5% of the top step base salary for the Senior Police Officer classification. Testing procedures will be determined and administered by the City. This level of proficiency is not intended to replace "higher" level of proficiency nor to "demote" employees currently receiving that level of benefit, providing they maintain

appropriate proficiency. The following standard of spoken Spanish is followed for the 2 ½% Certification:

- a. The applicant has the ability to create with language, recombining and adapting learned material to express personal meaning and can handle simple situations and transactions in the course of his/her work such as explanation of procedures, obtaining personal information, instructions to victims and onlookers, among others.
- b. The applicant is able to maintain simple face-to-face conversations, asking and answering questions regarding everyday survival on topics most related to self and immediate work environment; courtesy requirements, and personal needs during the course of routine calls not likely to be of a life or death nature.
- c. The applicant can be understood with some repetition by a sympathetic native speaker.
- d. The applicant demonstrates mastery of work-related vocabulary including: time, days of the week, months, family members, parts of the body, motions and states, greetings, home and community, food and beverages, alphabet and numbers, vehicles, simple commands, interrogatory words, etc.
- e. Accuracy is required in the present tense and gender distinctions.
- f. Core vocabulary of 300-600 words.

The 5% Certification requires:

- a. Accuracy in present and past tenses.
- b. Core vocabulary of 600-1200 words.
- c. Exhibits good pronunciation, stress, and intonation skills as judged by the ability to be understood with little repetition or confusion by native speaker.
- d. Ability to interview the victim of a crime or accident or other situation involving a native speaker of Spanish and conduct simple interrogations and investigations which could be of a life or death nature.
- e. Ability to understand description, narration, main ideas and details on a variety of topics beyond the immediate situation.

13.7 HAZARD PAY - \$100 per month hazard pay shall be applicable to each of two (2) officers assigned to undertake hazardous materials duty when assigned to the Drug Lab Clean-Up Task Force and when they are on-call. The hazard pay shall be payable the first payperiod following the month so assigned.

13.8 The City will continue payment of the assignment of special pay as set forth in Articles 13.2 through 13.7 above in the event of an industrial injury (as is done for salary, leaves and benefits) in accordance with the City's Personnel Rules and Regulations.

13.9 CERTIFIED FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR PAY - The City will provide for Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) training pay for employees assigned to the Airborne Law Enforcement Service (ABLE) program. This CFI assignment pay will be paid while the employee is assigned to provide helicopter flight training in a fashion similar to an FTO (5% of base salary).

## **ARTICLE 14 - ASSOCIATION VACATION BANK**

The City shall establish a vacation bank to be administered by the CMPA Board of Directors. The bank will be comprised of hours voluntarily donated by Association members.

### **ARTICLE 15 - SICK LEAVE INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

15.1 Employees may accumulate up to a maximum of 480 hours of sick leave credit in a Primary Sick Leave Bank assigned to each employee. Upon reaching the maximum level, the biweekly benefit of 3.69 sick leave hours will be distributed in the following manner:

- a. At the employee's option, one-half of the benefit will be:
  - 1. Converted for credit, at the current rate of pay, towards payment of the individual's Post-Retirement Medical Funding Plan. These funds will be used to pay premiums in said plan upon retirement from the City.
  - OR -
  - 2. Paid as monetary compensation to the employee at the employee's then current hourly base rate of pay.
  - OR -
  - 3. Converted into vacation hours.
- b. The remaining one-half benefit will be placed in the employee's Secondary Sick Leave Bank.

15.2 Primary Sick Leave Bank - Hours in this bank may be used in accordance with the rules regarding sick leave use in general.

15.3 Secondary Sick Leave Bank - If an employee has a Secondary Sick Leave Bank, hours in that bank will be used first in accordance with the rules regarding sick leave use up to 40 hours per calendar year. Hours in this bank may also be used in the event of a verified non-industrial disability, which has resulted in an absence from duty of 60 consecutive calendar days. In this event, sick leave in the Secondary Sick Leave Bank may be used for additional consecutive absences resulting from the disability; or it may be used to supplement LTD should the employee qualify for long term disability benefits. Additionally, an amount of sick leave equal to the hours used from the Primary Bank for said disability may be transferred from the secondary Bank to the Primary provided that such transfer shall not result in there being in excess of 480 hours in the Primary Bank.

15.4 Upon either separation from the City of Costa Mesa, with a minimum of 20 years of continuous honorable service; or upon eligibility for retirement benefits (defined as having applied for and receiving retirement benefits), the employee shall have the option of:

- a. Being paid at his/her then current hourly rate for one-half of the sick leave accumulated in his/her Primary Sick Leave Bank, however, there shall be no payment for any accumulated sick leave in the Secondary Sick Leave Bank, or
- b. The employee can choose to apply all credited time (both Banks) towards his or her service credit.

### **ARTICLE 16 - BEREAVEMENT LEAVE**

A maximum of three (3) days of paid leave may be used by an employee in the event of a death in his/her immediate family or the immediate family of his/her spouse. "Immediate family" shall be as defined in the Personnel Rules and Regulations regarding the use of sick leave under the M.O.U. This leave may be used in conjunction with the use of sick leave, but the term of absence for any one illness/death shall not exceed five (5) working days. Paid leave under this section shall not accumulate and shall not be carried over into a subsequent calendar year.

### **ARTICLE 17 - LONG TERM DISABILITY**

17.1 An employee is eligible for Long Term Disability ("LTD") benefits under the LTD Plan after sixty (60) calendar days of employment with the City. The City will eliminate the requirement that accumulated vacation, CTO, and sick leave be exhausted prior to LTD eligibility. Once eligible for LTD, an employee may exercise the option of using accumulated vacation, CTO and sick leave in his or her Secondary Sick Leave Bank to supplement LTD payments up to an amount not to exceed 100% of monthly salary.

17.2 A permanent separation from service for disability reasons shall be termed a "medical retirement" whether or not such separated employee receives benefits from either the Retirement or LTD Plan.

### **ARTICLE 18 - LAYOFF PROCEDURES**

Because of material change in duties or organization of the Costa Mesa Police Department, or shortage of work or funds, employees covered by this M.O.U. may be laid off. Thirty (30) calendar days before the effective date of a layoff, the appointing authority shall notify the Administrative Services Director of the intended action with reasons therefore. Any Employee who is laid off shall be considered for re-employment as provided by the Personnel Rules and Regulations.

### **ARTICLE 19 - DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

19.1 Any conflict or discrepancy between this Article and Rule 14 of the Personnel Rules and Regulations shall be clarified in accordance with this Article.

19.2 Basis for Disciplinary Action - The tenure of every City employee shall be based on reasonable standards of personal conduct and job performance. Failure to meet such standards shall be grounds for appropriate disciplinary action, which shall be commensurate with the seriousness of the offense and with consideration of the employee's prior performance record. Disciplinary action shall be based upon any of the following grounds:

- a. Fraud in securing employment or making a materially false statement on an application for employment or on any supporting documents furnished with or made a part of any application.
- b. Incompetence such as failure to comply with the minimum standards for an employee's position for a significant period of time.
- c. Neglect of duty, such as failure to perform the duties required of an employee's position.

- d. Willful disobedience and insubordination such as a willful failure to submit to duly appointed and acting supervision or to conform to duly established orders or directions of persons in a supervisory position.
- e. Dishonesty involving or affecting employment.
- f. Being under the influence of alcohol or intoxicating drugs while on duty without a prescription. Unauthorized use of alcohol or any intoxicating drugs while on duty, or bringing alcohol or controlled substances onto any City work area, including work areas which are located away from the City Hall or Police Headquarters if the employee is on duty, without authorization from management.
- g. Addiction to or abuse of alcoholic beverages, narcotics or any habit forming drug, in violation of the City's drug testing policy.
- h. Inexcusable absence without leave.
- i. Conviction of a felony or conviction of a misdemeanor. A plea or verdict of guilty, or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere, to a charge of a felony or misdemeanor is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this section.
- j. Discourteous treatment of the public.
- k. Improper or unauthorized use of City property.
- l. Violation of the rules and regulations of the Police Department.
- m. Any act or conduct undertaken which is of such a nature that it causes discredit to fall upon the City, the employee's department or division, whether during or outside of duty hours.
- n. Failure to maintain proper conduct during working hours causing discredit to the employee's department or division.
- o. Fighting, threats of bodily harm or causing an assault on a fellow worker without justification.
- p. Misuse of City records or information obtained for use outside the scope of their employment.
- q. Falsification of City records, including the intentional omission of relevant or required information.
- r. Willful destruction of City property
- s. Abuse of sick leave.
- t. Knowingly failing to follow the procedures governing grievances when pursuing a grievance.

- u. Inattention to duty, tardiness, carelessness or negligence in the care and handling of City property, private property in their care or Departmental business.
- v. The employee's failure to resolve a physical or mental infirmity(s) or defect(s), when it is within the capacity of the employee to do so and when so directed by his/her supervisor.
- w. Outside employment, which conflicts with the employee's position or the mission of the Department, and is not specifically authorized by the department director.
- x. Acceptance from any source of a reward, gift or other form of remuneration in addition to the employee's regular compensation, as a personal benefit to the employee for actions performed in the normal course of the employee's assigned duties. This does not include items of recognition, such as commendation, certificates and other such incidents of office which may be presented to officers in recognition of superior performance or a job well done, so long as the presentation does not include any sort of payment or compensation for the performance of the officer's duty.
- y. Falsification of any City report or record, or of any report or record required to be, or, filed by the employee or which the employee causes to be filed.
- z. Violation of any of the provisions of the City Code, ordinances, resolutions, or any rules, regulations or policies which may be prescribed by the City Council, City Manager, department manager or supervisor.
- aa. Political activities precluded by State or Federal law.
- bb. Other acts which are incompatible with service to the public.
- cc. Violation of the City's harassment policy.

19.3 Types of Discipline - The following procedures shall be followed when, in the judgment of the department director, an employee has committed an act or omission that justifies disciplinary action. Except for written warnings/reprimands, the department director or his/her designee shall advise employees of contemplated disciplinary actions in writing and allow the employees reasonable opportunity to respond to such charges prior to taking action.

When life, or employee safety, is endangered, or the self-control of an employee is questionable, a supervisor shall take immediate action to reduce or eliminate the danger or to establish control. In case of an emergency, an employee shall have all of the rights set forth herein, except, in the discretion of the appointing authority, an employee may be placed on administrative leave with pay pending predisciplinary procedures. In such a circumstance the Administrative Services Director must be contacted immediately.

The following are the applicable types of discipline:

- a. **Warning/Reprimand:** If the warning/reprimand is in writing, the department director shall give the employee a copy and forward a copy to the Administrative Services Director for review and retention in the employee's personal history file. A written warning/reprimand shall contain a description of the events which necessitated the action, the specific expectations of change or improvement to be demonstrated by the employee, and notice of further adverse action which might be taken against the employee in the



event a change in the employee's conduct or performance does not occur. The reprimanded employee shall have the right to attach a written rebuttal to this warning/reprimand.

- b. **Suspension:** A department director may suspend an employee with or without pay from his/her position. Any placement of an employee on administrative leave pending predisciplinary response by the employee shall be with pay. The appointing authority shall advise the Administrative Services Director in writing of such intended action and shall give a copy of the statement to the employee. The written statement shall contain a description of the events which necessitated the suspension, a statement of the charges, notification that the employee may review and be provided with the materials leading to the suspension, the right of the employee to meet with the appointing authority and/or to respond in writing within a reasonable time frame to the charges, and notice of further action in the event a change by the employee does not occur. Unless extended by approval of the City Manager or Assistant City Manager on written recommendation of the department head, the maximum period of suspension shall be thirty (30) calendar days. These procedures are predisciplinary in nature.
- c. **Demotion or Reduction in Pay:** A department head shall advise the Administrative Services Director in writing of his/her intention to demote or reduce the salary of an employee prior to taking such action. In demoting an employee or reducing his/her salary, the department head shall prepare a written notice and shall give a copy of said notice for demotion or reduction in pay to the employee and forward a copy to the Administrative Services Director for review and retention in the employee's personal history file. The written statement shall contain a description of the events which necessitated the demotion, a statement of the charges, notification that the employee may review and be provided with the materials leading to the demotion, the right of the employee to meet with the appointing authority and/or respond in writing within a reasonable time frame to the charges, and notice of possible further action in the event a change or improvement by the employee does not occur. These procedures are predisciplinary in nature.
- d. **Dismissal:** A department head shall advise the Administrative Services Director in writing of his/her intention to dismiss an employee prior to taking such action. In dismissing an employee, the department head shall prepare a written notice and shall give a copy of said notice of dismissal to the employee and forward a copy to the Administrative Services Director for review and retention in the employee's personal history file. The written statement shall contain a description of the events which necessitated the dismissal, a statement of the charges, notification that the employee may review and be provided with the materials leading to the dismissal, and the right of the employee to meet with the appointing authority and/or respond in writing within a reasonable time frame to giving the employee notice of the charges. These procedures are predisciplinary in nature.

19.4 **Notices -** Written notices will be given to the employee in person whenever possible and the employee's signature obtained to indicate receipt. In the absence of personal service, the notice may be sent by registered mail.

19.5 **Employee's Response -** An employee's opportunity to respond to the appointing authority is not intended to be an adversarial hearing. An employee has the right to have a representative of his/her own choosing at the meeting. The employee need not be accorded the opportunity to cross-examine a

departments' witnesses, nor to present a formal case in opposition to the proposed discipline. However, the limited nature of this response does not obviate the appointing authority's responsibility to initiate further investigation if the employee's version of the facts raises doubts as to the accuracy of the department head's information leading to the discipline proposal. An employee may elect not to respond, thereby waiving any further predisciplinary response.

The appointing authority will evaluate the proposed discipline in light of the employee's response, if any. Within five (5) working days of the employee's response, or other deadline for response established by the parties, the decision of the appointing authority will be transmitted in writing to the employee. Service of the decision will be in person or by registered mail.

19.6 Appeal Procedures - Any permanent employee in the classified service shall have the right to appeal any termination, suspension of over twenty (20) hours, reduction in salary, or nonprobationary demotion. The appeal process shall not be applicable to those positions, which may be deemed exempt, or to probationary employees. This appeal process shall not be applicable to verbal and written reprimands, suspensions of twenty (20) hours or less, performance evaluations and denial of merit increases.

An employee desiring to appeal the appointing authority's decision shall have ten (10) calendar days after receipt of the response to file an appeal. The employee's request for appeal must be addressed to the Administrative Services Director and received in the Administrative Services Department and date stamped by the Administrative Services Department within the 10-day period.

If, within the 10-day appeal period, the employee involved does not file said appeal, unless good cause for the failure is shown, the action of the appointing authority shall be considered conclusive and shall take effect as prescribed. If, within the 10-day appeal period, the employee involved files such notice of appeal by giving written notice of appeal to the Administrative Services Department, an advisory arbitration appeal hearing shall be established as follows:

- a. The employee shall file a written request with the Administrative Services Department for advisory arbitration.
- b. At the initiation of this M.O.U. and the beginning of each subsequent calendar year, a list of registered arbitrators will be certified by the parties. CMPA and the City shall each submit the names of five (5) arbitrators to complete a listing of ten (10) arbitrators. The arbitrators shall be registered with the American Arbitration Association, California State Conciliation Service or some other agreed upon recognized reputable source. Within seven (7) calendar days of the employee's request for an arbitration appeals hearing, each party may strike three or less names from the established list. If the employee or CMPA fails to strike within thirty (30) calendar days, the employee is considered to have abandoned the appeal. If a mutual agreement cannot be reached between the parties as to the selection of an arbitrator from the remaining names, the matter will be heard by the listed arbitrator who is first available to hear the matter within the time frames of the process. The party to have the first opportunity to strike a name from the list of ten arbitrators shall be determined by lot. The priority of striking of names from the arbitrator list shall then alternate from one party to the other each time advisory arbitration is invoked by the same parties.
- c. The selected arbitrator shall serve as the hearing officer.

- d. Where practicable, the date for a hearing shall not be less than 20 calendar days, nor more than 60 calendar days, from the date of the filing of the appeal with the Administrative Services Director. The parties may however stipulate to a longer or shorter period of time in which to hear the appeal. All interested parties shall be notified in writing of the date, time, and place of hearing and the identity of the hearing officer to whom the matter has been assigned.
- e. All hearings shall be private, however, the employee may request to open the hearing to the public.
- f. Subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum pertaining to a hearing shall be issued at the request of either party to the Hearing Officer, not less than seven (7) calendar days, prior to the commencement of such hearing. After the commencement of such hearing, subpoenas shall be issued only at the discretion of the hearing officer.
- g. The hearing need not be conducted in accordance with technical rules relating to evidence, civil procedure and witnesses. Any relevant evidence shall be admitted if it is the sort of evidence on which reasonable persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of any common law or statutory rules which might make improper the admission of such evidence over objection in civil actions. Hearsay evidence may be used for the purpose of supplementing or explaining any direct evidence but shall not be sufficient in itself to support a finding unless it would be admissible over objection in civil actions. The rules of privilege shall be effective to the same extent that they are now or hereafter may be recognized in civil actions, and irrelevant and unduly repetitious evidence shall be excluded. The hearing officer shall not be bound by technical rules of evidence. The hearing officer shall rule on the admission or exclusion of evidence.
- h. Each party shall have these rights: To be represented by legal counsel or other person of his/her choice; to call and examine witnesses; to introduce evidence; to cross-examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issues even though that matter was not covered in the direct examination; to impeach any witness regardless of which party first called him/her to testify; and to rebut the evidence against him/her. If the employee does not testify in his/her own behalf, he/she may be called and examined by an opposing party, as if under cross-examination. Oral evidence shall be taken only on oath or affirmation. A court reporter will be engaged to record the hearing, unless the parties (City, hearing officer, employee/employee representative) mutually agree that same is not necessary.
- i. The hearing shall proceed in the following order, unless the hearing officer, for special reason, otherwise directs:
  - 1. The party imposing discipline shall be permitted to make an opening statement;
  - 2. The appealing party shall then be permitted to make an opening statement;
  - 3. The party imposing disciplinary action shall produce the evidence on his/her part; the City bears the burden of proof and burden of producing evidence;

4. The party appealing from such disciplinary action may then open his/her defense and offer his/her evidence in support thereof, the employee bears the burden of producing evidence for any affirmative defenses asserted;
  5. The parties may then, in order, respectively offer rebutting evidence, unless the hearing officer for good reason, permits them to offer evidence upon their original case;
  6. Closing arguments shall be permitted and written briefs may be permitted at the discretion of the hearing officer.
- j. The hearing officer shall determine relevancy, weight, and credibility of testimony and evidence. He/she shall base his/her findings on a preponderance of evidence presented. During the examination of a witness, all other witnesses, except the parties, shall be excluded from the hearing unless the hearing officer, in his/her discretion, for good cause, otherwise directs. No still photographs, moving pictures, or television pictures shall be taken in the hearing chamber during a hearing. The hearing officer, prior to or during a hearing, may grant a continuance for any reason he/she believes to be important to reaching a fair and proper decision. The hearing officer shall render his/her opinion as soon after the conclusion of the hearing as possible and in no event later than 30 days after conclusion of the hearing, absent a stipulation from the parties that a longer period of time is warranted. His/her decision shall set forth which charges, if any, are sustained and the reasons therefore. The opinion shall set forth findings of fact and conclusions.
- k. The hearing officer may recommend sustaining or rejecting any or all of the charges filed against the employee. He/she may recommend sustaining, rejecting, or modifying the disciplinary action invoked against the employee. He/she may not recommend discipline more stringent than that issued by the department head.
- The hearing officer's opinion and recommendation shall be filed with the City Manager or Assistant City Manager, with a copy sent to the appealing employee, and the Administrative Services Director and shall set forth his/her findings and recommendations. If it is a dismissal hearing and a dismissal is not the hearing officer's recommendation, the opinion shall set forth the date the employee is recommended to be reinstated and/or other recommended action. The reinstatement date, if appropriate, may be any time on or after the date of disciplinary action.
- l. The City Manager or Assistant City Manager shall then review the hearing officer's opinion and recommendation and render a decision on the appeal within thirty days of the filing of said opinion and recommendation. The decision of the City Manager or Assistant City Manager shall be final and conclusive. Copies of the City Manager's or Assistant City Manager decision, including the hearing officer's recommendation(s) shall be filed where appropriate, including the employee's personnel file, unless no discipline is upheld by the City Manager or Assistant City Manager. A copy of said decision shall also be served upon the parties and the employee by first class mail.
- m. Each party shall bear equally the cost of facilities, fees and expenses of the hearing officer if the officer is not an employee of the City. These fees also include the fee of the court reporter and the costs of preparing the transcripts of the hearing. Each party shall bear the cost of its own witness and attorney fees. If either party unilaterally cancels or

postpones a scheduled hearing, thereby resulting in a fee charged by the hearing officer or court reporter, then the party responsible for the cancellation or postponement shall be solely responsible for payment of that fee. This process may not apply to mutual settlements by the parties which result in an arbitration fee.

- n. In the case of suspension, demotion, reduction in salary, or dismissal prescribed by the City Manager or Assistant City Manager, the time of such discipline shall relate back to the date the employee was disciplined or after delivery of the City Manager's or Assistant City Manager's decision if discipline was stayed pending the arbitration hearing. If the City Manager's or Assistant City Manager's decision results in a reduction or elimination of a loss of pay which was previously recommended by the employee's appointing authority, the pay loss shall be restored to the employee.
- o. The provisions of Sections 1094.5 and 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be applicable to proceedings under this section, including the appeal of the City Manager's or Assistant City Manager's final determination into the California Court System, which must be made in accordance to the time standards and procedures established by Section 1094.6 of California's Code of Civil Procedure.

19.7 A permanent Sworn Police Officer/Sergeant shall have the right to appeal a probationary demotion, suspensions of 20 hours or less, written reprimands, or job reassignment in the following manner:

- a. The appointing authority shall cause to be served on the employee affected, by registered mail or personal delivery, a statement signed by the appointing authority of the specific action against the employee. This statement shall clearly inform the employee that he/she has the right, within five (5) working days after receipt of this notice, to request an informal hearing on the action by filing the request with the Administrative Services Director.
- b. If within the five (5) day appeal period the employee involved does not file said appeal, unless good cause for the failure is shown, the action of the City shall be considered conclusive and shall take effect as prescribed.
- c. If within the five (5) day appeal period the employee involved files a written notice of appeal with the Administrative Services Director a time for an appeal hearing before the City Manager or Assistant City Manager shall be established. The date for a hearing shall not be less than ten (10) days, not more than thirty (30) days, from the date of the filing of the appeal, unless the parties stipulate to a different date. All interested parties shall be notified in writing of the date, time, and place of the hearing at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the hearing.
- d. The City Manager or Assistant City Manager shall conduct an informal hearing on the appeal. Each party shall have the opportunity to present all relevant information in support of its respective position. These proceedings may be electronically recorded and either party shall have the right to cause them to be reported by a certified shorthand reporter at the party's expense.

Within ten (10) working days after the conclusion of the hearing, the City Manager or Assistant City Manager shall deliver to the employee a final written decision, and serve

same by first class mail upon the employee, which shall either: (a) affirm the decision; (b) modify it by: (1) holding that certain charges were not established by a preponderance of the evidence, and/or (2) reducing the penalty, or (3) overturn the decision in its entirety. Said decision shall be final and binding on the parties and the employee, subject to their right to seek judicial review pursuant to 1094.5 and 1094.6 of the California Code of Civil Procedure.

## **ARTICLE 20 - GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

20.1 The following guidelines supersede Sections 3 and 4 of Rule 25, Grievance Procedure, of the City's Personnel Rules and Regulations.

20.2 Definition - A "grievance" is a formal, written allegation by a grievant that he/she has been adversely affected in the terms and conditions of his or her employment by violation, misinterpretation or misapplication of the specific provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding and/or provisions of the Personnel Rules and Regulations. Other matters for which a special method of review is provided by law, ordinance, resolution, or by administrative regulations and procedures of the City, are not within the scope of this procedure. This procedure is not to be used in lieu of the Discipline Appeals Procedure.

20.3 Procedure

- a. Informal Resolution: Every effort shall be made to resolve a grievance through discussion between the employee and his/her immediate supervisor. It is the spirit and intent of this procedure that all grievances are settled quickly and fairly without any discrimination against employees who may seek to resolve a grievance by invoking this procedure. Every effort should be made to find an acceptable solution at the lowest level of supervision. Within fifteen (15) calendar days after a grievant knew, or by reasonable diligence should have known, of the condition upon which a grievance may be based, the grievant shall attempt to resolve it by an informal conference with the grievant's immediate supervisor.
- b. If the problem cannot be resolved between the employee and the supervisor, the employee may, within seven (7) calendar days from the date of receiving the answer from his/her supervisor, the grievant may request and be granted an interview with the division manager, if one exists, in order to further discuss the grievance.
- c. If the division head and employee cannot reach a solution to the grievance, the employee may, within seven (7) calendar days from the date of receiving the answer from the division manager, request, in writing, and be granted an interview with the department head.
- d. The department head shall render his/her decision in writing within fifteen (15) calendar days of receiving the grievance. If the department head and employee are unable to arrive at a satisfactory solution, the employee may, within ten (10) calendar days from the date of the decision by the department head, submit a written request with the Administrative Services Department for advisory arbitration.
- e. At the initiation of this MOU and the beginning of each calendar year, a list of registered arbitrators will be certified. CMPA and the City shall each submit the names of five (5)

arbitrators to complete a listing of ten (10) arbitrators. The arbitrators shall be registered with the American Arbitration Association, California State Conciliation Service or some other agreed upon recognized reputable source. Within seven (7) calendar days of the employee's request for an arbitration appeals hearing, each party may strike up to three names from the established list. If the employee or CMPA fails to strike within thirty (30) calendar days, the employee is considered to have abandoned the appeal. If a mutual agreement cannot be reached between the parties as to the selection of an arbitrator from the remaining names, the matter will be heard by the listed arbitrator who is first available to hear the matter within the time frames of the process. The party to have the first opportunity to strike a name from the list of ten arbitrators shall be determined by lot. The priority for striking names from the arbitrator list shall then alternate from one party to the other each time advisory arbitration is invoked by these parties.

- f. The selected arbitrator shall serve as the hearing officer.
- g. Where practicable, the date for a hearing shall not be less than 20 calendar days, nor more than 60 calendar days, from the date of the filing of the appeal with the Administrative Services Director. The parties may however stipulate to a longer or shorter period of time in which to hear the appeal. All interested parties shall be notified in writing of the date, time, and place of hearing and the identity of the hearing officer to whom the matter has been assigned.
- h. All hearings shall be private, however, the employee may request that the hearing be open to the public.
- i. Subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecums pertaining to a hearing shall be issued at the request of either party to the Hearing Officer, not less than seven (7) calendar days, prior to the commencement of such hearing. After the commencement of such hearing, subpoenas shall be issued only at the discretion of the hearing officer.
- j. The hearing need not be conducted in accordance with technical rules relating to evidence, civil procedure and witnesses. Any relevant evidence shall be admitted if it is the sort of evidence on which reasonable persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of any common law or statutory rules which might make improper the admission of such evidence over objection in civil actions. Hearsay evidence may be used for the purpose of supplementing or explaining any direct evidence but shall not be sufficient in itself to support a finding unless it would be admissible over objection in civil actions. The rules of privilege shall be effective to the same extent that they are now or hereafter may be recognized in civil actions, and irrelevant and unduly repetitious evidence shall be excluded. The hearing officer shall not be bound by technical rules of evidence. The hearing officer shall rule on the admission or exclusion of evidence.
- k. Each party shall have these rights: To be represented by legal counsel or other person of his/her choice; to call and examine witnesses; to introduce evidence; to cross-examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issues even though that matter was not covered in the direct examination; to impeach any witness regardless of which party first called him/her to testify; and to rebut the evidence against him/her. If the employee does not testify in his/her own behalf, he/she may be called and examined by an opposing party as if under cross-examination. Oral evidence shall be taken only on oath or affirmation. A court reporter will be engaged to record the hearing, unless the parties

(City, hearing officer, employee/employee representative) mutually agree that same is not necessary.

1. The hearing shall proceed in the following order, unless the hearing officer, for special reason, otherwise directs:
  1. The party appealing the grievance shall be permitted to make an opening statement;
  2. The City's representative shall then be permitted to make an opening statement;
  3. The party appealing the grievance shall produce the evidence on his/her part; the employee bears the burden of proof and burden of producing evidence;
  4. The City's representative may then open his/her defense and offer his/her evidence in support thereof, the City bears the burden of producing evidence for any affirmative defenses asserted;
  5. The parties may then, in order, respectively offer rebutting evidence, unless the hearing officer for good reason, permits them to offer evidence upon their original case;
  6. Closing arguments shall be permitted and written briefs may be permitted at the discretion of the hearing officer.
  
- m. The hearing officer shall determine relevancy, weight, and credibility of testimony and evidence. He/she shall base his/her findings on a preponderance of evidence presented. During the examination of a witness, all other witnesses, except the parties, shall be excluded from the hearing unless the hearing officer, in his/her discretion, for good cause, otherwise directs. No still photographs, moving pictures, or television pictures shall be taken in the hearing chamber during a hearing. The hearing officer, prior to or during a hearing, may grant a continuance for any reason he/she believes to be important to reaching a fair and proper decision. The hearing officer shall render his/her opinion as soon after the conclusion of the hearing as possible and in no event later than 30 days after the conclusion of the hearing, absent a stipulation from the parties that a longer period of time is warranted. His/her decision shall set forth which charges, if any, are sustained and the reasons therefore. The opinion shall set forth findings of fact and conclusions.
  
- n. The hearing officer may recommend sustaining or rejecting any or all of the charges filed against the employee. He/she may recommend sustaining, rejecting, or modifying the action invoked against the employee. He/she may not recommend more stringent than that issued by the department head.
 

The hearing officer's opinion and recommendation shall be filed with the City Manager, with a copy sent to the charged employee, and the Administrative Services Director and shall set forth his/her findings and recommendations.
  
- o. The City Manager or Assistant City Manager shall then review the hearing officer's opinion and recommendation and render a decision on the appeal within thirty days of the



filing of said opinion and recommendation. The decision of the City Manager or Assistant City Manager shall be final and conclusive. Copies of the City Manager's or Assistant City Manager's decision, including the hearing officer's recommendation(s) shall be filed where appropriate, including the employee's personnel file, and a copy of said decision shall also be served upon the parties and the employee by first class mail.

- p. Each party shall bear equally the cost of facilities, fees and expenses of the hearing officer if the officer is not an employee of the City. These fees also, include the fee of the court reporter and the costs of preparing the transcripts of the hearing. Each party shall bear the cost of its own witness and attorney fees. If either party unilaterally cancels or postpones a scheduled hearing, thereby resulting in a fee charged by the hearing officer or court reporter, then the party responsible for the cancellation or postponement shall be solely responsible for payment of that fee. This process shall not apply to mutual settlements by the parties which result in an arbitration fee.
- q. If the time limits for processing the employee's grievance at any step defined above should elapse, the grievance shall be considered withdrawn. Time limits may be extended by mutual consent. If the City fails to respond within the prescribed time limits, the grievance will be deemed to have been denied and the employee may go to the next step. If the City Manager or Assistant City Manager fails to respond within the prescribed time limit, the grievance will be deemed to have been denied and the employee will be deemed to have exhausted his/her administrative remedy.
- r. The employee may request the assistance of another person of his/her own choosing in preparing and presenting his/her appeal at any level of review. In the event the employee desires the presence of a representative who is an employee of the City, he/she shall make such request through the assisting employee's supervisor and the supervisor shall make the necessary arrangements for the employee representative to be present.
- s. The employee and/or his/her representative may use a reasonable amount of work time as determined by the appropriate supervisor or department head in presenting the appeal. However, no employee shall absent himself/herself without first being excused by his/her supervisor.
- t. No employee shall be required to be represented by an employee organization in processing a grievance.
- u. Employees shall be assured freedom from reprisal for using the grievance procedures by both the City and CMPA.
- v. The settlement terms of a grievance which is processed by an employee individually or by an informally recognized employee representative shall not conflict with the express provisions of this M.O.U.
- w. A group grievance may be filed when one (1) set of circumstances or occurrences affects more than one (1) employee in the same manner or to the same extent. The group may file one (1) document which all members of the group have read and signed. Members of the group shall be limited to those who have signed the grievance. The resolution of a group grievance may not be consistent among all employees in the group grievance due to differences in the circumstances or occurrences that brought about the grievance.

A group grievance affecting all members of an employee organization may be brought by the employee organization itself. In such case the procedure shall be commenced directly at the Department Head level within fifteen (15) working days after authorized representatives of the employee organization knew or by reasonable diligence should have known of the condition giving rise to the grievance and shall be subject to all applicable time limitations and the provisions set forth above.

### **ARTICLE 21 - AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)**

21.1 Because the ADA requires accommodations for individuals protected under the Act, and because these accommodations must be determined on an individual case-by-case basis, the parties agree that the provisions of this agreement may be disregarded in order for the City to avoid discrimination relative to hiring, promotion, granting permanency, transfer, layoff, reassignment, termination, rehire, rates of pay, job and duty classification, seniority, leaves, fringe benefits, training opportunities, hours of work or other terms and privileges of employment.

21.2 The Association recognizes that the City has the legal obligation to meet with the individual employee to be accommodated before any adjustment is made in working conditions. The Association will be notified of these proposed accommodations prior to implementation by the City.

21.3 Any accommodation provided to an individual protected by the ADA shall not establish a past practice, nor shall it be cited or used as evidence of a past practice in the grievance/arbitration procedure.

### **ARTICLE 22 – SENIOR POLICE OFFICER PROGRAM**

Senior Police Officers will retain the classification of Senior Police Officer until promotion, demotion or retirement.

### **ARTICLE 23 - HOLIDAY PAY**

23.1 Employees covered by this agreement shall be entitled to receive twelve (96 hours) holidays during the calendar year. The following dates and such other days or portion of days as may be designated by the City Council shall be observed as holidays on which City Hall will close: January 1, New Year's Day; third Monday in January, Martin Luther King's Birthday; third Monday in February, Washington's Birthday; last Monday in May, Memorial Day observance; July 4, Independence Day; first Monday in September, Labor Day; November 11, Veteran's Day observance; fourth Thursday in November, Thanksgiving; the Friday immediately following Thanksgiving; and December 25, Christmas Day. February 12, Lincoln's Birthday, and September 9, California's Admission Day, shall be recognized as holiday observances on which City Hall will remain open. In the event any of the above holidays fall on Saturday, the preceding Friday will be observed. In the event any of the above holidays fall on Sunday, the following Monday will be observed.

23.2 Employees may elect to use available holiday time for additional time off, or they may cash out available holiday time for pay to a maximum of 96 hours per calendar year.

23.3 Prior to the beginning of each calendar year, employees must irrevocably elect for the next year to either take time off for holidays or cash out holiday pay. Employees who choose the cash out option will receive the holiday pay bank of 96 hours beginning the first payperiod for the new payroll year. The holiday pay bank may be cashed out at anytime during the year. At the end of the payroll year any remaining holiday pay will be cashed out unless the employee previously elects to have it applied as accrued vacation. Throughout the payroll year, if an employee, who has selected Option 1, decides to take a holiday off, they must use either vacation or comp time, not holiday time.

23.4 Those employees who choose to take time off in lieu of the holidays will receive a bank of 120 hours. They will be required to record on their timesheets the hours that correspond with their regular workday shift and schedule (i.e., those on the 4/10 schedule, will record 10 hours for holiday time). The hours will be available the first payperiod of the new payroll year. Those employees who elect this option must, as in the past, make a request at least four (4) working days prior to the requested time off. Approval of the time off request will be based upon available staffing needs and the needs of the employee. At the end of the payroll year, any remaining hours will be carried over to the next payroll year (however, the subsequent year's bank, or cash out, shall be reduced by the number of hours carried over).

23.3 If an employee separates from the service of the City and has used or been paid for holiday pay in advance of the date(s) or day(s) the holidays actually occurred, the City will deduct the cash value for holiday benefits already paid, but unearned at the time of separation from the final paycheck.

23.6 At the end of the calendar year any remaining holiday pay will be cashed out unless the employee elects to have it applied as accrued vacation.

23.7 Employees hired after January 1 of each year are eligible for a pro-rata amount of holiday pay during the calendar year.

## **ARTICLE 24 - UNIFORM MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE**

24.1 The City provides uniforms or uniform allowance for employees represented by the Association. The City will continue to replace, repair and maintain uniforms worn in the line of duty. The average cost of the uniforms/uniform allowances are reported as special compensation for retirement calculation purposes.

24.2 Officers not currently assigned to the Operation Division will have a complete uniform for duty wear. The officers may replace worn equipment or uniforms in the same manner as officers assigned to the Operation Division in addition to the \$500.00 annual clothing allowance currently paid to employees working plain clothes assignments.

## **ARTICLE 25 - SENIORITY**

Seniority is a privileged status attained by length of continuous and uninterrupted service in the respective classification. Seniority for Officer (including Senior Police Officer), Corporal, and Sergeant, is based on time in grade in the respective rank.

## **ARTICLE 26 - WORK SCHEDULES**

The current work schedule for uniformed personnel and detectives is the four-day work week, ten hour day, (4/10). This schedule will be in effect for the duration of the M.O.U. unless mutually modified pursuant to the Meet and Confer process. Seniority will determine the order in which employees select their yearly work schedules.

## **ARTICLE 27 - SCHEDULING**

27.1 The annual selection of schedules and shifts/watch (watch is synonymous with shift) for Patrol and Traffic personnel shall begin upon the completion of the rotation selection and shall conclude as soon as practical, preceding the January starting date of the new shifts. All classifications represented in this M.O.U. will make a selection as soon as practical, but in no case to exceed 24 hours after a request by the supervisor(s) overseeing the process. If a published schedule requires modification during the initial selection process, then the entire selection process will be repeated. Both parties acknowledge the provisions identified in this article are not all inclusive and Management retains the right to establish any other rules for the selection of work schedules not identified within this M.O.U.

27.2 Seniority rights in each job classification determine the order of annual shift, schedule and vacation selection. Employees who elect to make an approved shift or schedule trade with another employee assume the seniority of the employee with whom they traded, for shift purposes only, for the length of the trade.

27.3 Priority for vacation selection is based upon the employee's seniority on the watch (i.e. AM/Days/PM/Relief) in which the vacation will occur. Management retains the right to determine the number of personnel that may be allowed on vacation on any particular shift or assignment

27.4 Any new work schedule(s) or shift introduced into an existing schedule during the year, will be available for selection by those working in that same assignment in order of seniority. A "new" work schedule or shift as defined in this section shall not include "short shift" positions that exist within an existing schedule that may have not been filled initially, but became available during the calendar year due to increased staffing. Assignments are defined as the Bureau, Detail, or Patrol Area in which the new work schedule was introduced. Any subsequent vacancies that occur due to this selection process will also be made available in order of seniority within the same assignment in which the vacancy occurs. Management retains the right to assign the least senior employee to any shift left vacant by the selection process.

27.5 If a mid-shift vacancy occurs within an existing work schedule, management retains the right to assign personnel as needed. A "short shift" position that existed within an existing schedule that was not filled initially, but became available during the calendar year due to increased staffing is considered a mid-shift vacancy. At the next scheduled rotation any such vacancy, which remains available for selection will be made available to personnel in the same Patrol Area (if the vacancy is in Patrol) and on the same shift (i.e. AM/Day/PM/Relief) for all uniform personnel.

27.6 In the case of a mid-shift vacancy due to a promotion, the following rules will apply:

- Corporal: The vacated work schedule (and any subsequent vacancies created by this process) will be available for selection by any Corporal in the same Patrol Area as the vacated position, in order of seniority.

- Patrol Sergeant: The vacated work schedule (and any subsequent vacancies created by this process) will be available for selection by any other sergeant on that shift (i.e. AM/Day/PM) in order of seniority.

27.8 Management retains the right to assign the least senior Corporal or Sergeant to any work schedule left vacant by the above selection process. Refer to Police Department Policy Manual Section 1988 for mid-year vacancies involving a one for one planned rotation exchange.

27.9 Management retains the right to determine what work schedules will be made available for selection based upon available staffing levels. Management also retains the right to assign personnel, in recognition of their respective seniority, to vacant work schedules as necessary to fill staffing needs.

27.10 No employee will be forced to work the A.M. shift for a full calendar year. If the selection process creates this situation, then management retains the right to adjust schedule selections as necessary based upon seniority.

27.11 All personnel in the represented classifications are subject to overtime draft as needed.

27.12 Employees who work the PM and AM shifts which overlap during a scheduled shift change, will be compensated for each full shift as scheduled, (at straight time). If an employee is approved to take time-off on either or both of these shifts, they shall use the same numbers of leave hours as they would have been compensated for. An employee may use Z-Time to account for the time taken off during the overlapping hours.

27.13 Employees whose work shift is affected by the change of Day Light Savings Time or Standard Time changes or shift changes, will be compensated for the full shift as scheduled. If hours worked are in excess of the scheduled shift, they will be compensated for actual hours worked.

## **ARTICLE 28 – COMPUTER LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM**

Employees who have passed probation are eligible to participate in the City's Computer Loan Guarantee Program. The City shall specify the minimum hardware configuration necessary to participate under the Program. It is the employee's responsibility to negotiate the price for the hardware and to bring a copy of the order/quote to the City for approval prior to purchase. The employee shall apply for a loan with the Costa Mesa Municipal Employees Credit Union that will be subject to all current Credit Union lending practices. If the employee qualifies, the City will agree to guarantee the loan thereby lowering the interest rate on the loan. In order for an employee to receive a loan under the Program for hardware upgrades, or purchase of hardware components which are part of the City approved minimum configuration, the employee must certify that he/she already owns the remaining components required to meet the minimum hardware configuration.

Notwithstanding the above, an employee who desires to buy computer hardware directly without the benefit of the Computer Loan Guarantee Program shall remain eligible for any City discount that has been negotiated between the City and the vendor of the hardware.

## **ARTICLE 29 – PROHIBITION OF TOBACCO**

The on-duty use of tobacco (cigarettes, cigars and related tobacco products) is prohibited for all represented employees. Applies to employees hired after the approval of this MOU.

**ARTICLE 30 - MEET AND CONFER**

30.1 The City agrees to give the Association notice of the obligation to meet and confer within two weeks upon the adoption of any state or federal law or regulation, or after the passage of any Act or decision of any court of competent jurisdiction that has significant financial impact upon the City.

30.2 The parties agree to meet and confer on wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment to be effective on or about September 1, 2007.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COSTA MESA POLICE ASSOCIATION	REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA
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**Tony Yanizzi**, CMPA President

**Howard Perkins**, Acting Admin. Services Director

**Loren Wyrick**, CMPA Member

**Tom Warnack**, Police Captain

**Paul Beckman**, CMPA Member

**Scheralee Ford**, Commander

**Greg Scott**, CMPA Member

**Lance Nakamoto**, Principal Personnel Analyst

**Jim Thyden**, Management Analyst

FINAL CMPA MOU