

# Georgia Department of Public Safety

## Policy Manual

<b>SUBJECT</b> <b>USE OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY EMBLEMS AND BADGES</b>	<b>POLICY NUMBER</b> <b>1.02</b>
<b>DISTRIBUTION</b> <b>ALL EMPLOYEES</b>	<b>REVISED DATE</b> <b>7/13/2016</b>

### 1.02.1 Purpose

It is recognized that there are certain emblems and badges that are directly associated with the Georgia Department of Public Safety and that their use would convey the impression that the organization using such emblems or badges is approved, endorsed or authorized by or associated with the Georgia Department of Public Safety. For this reason, such badges or emblems may not be used without the written approval of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety.

### 1.02.2 Policy

It shall be the policy of the Georgia Department of Public Safety to prohibit the use of badges and emblems associated with the Georgia Department of Public Safety where such use is considered to be detrimental to the interests, reputation, and image of the department. Further, such other use shall only be permitted with the express permission of the Commissioner.

### 1.02.3 Definitions

- A. Commissioner - is the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety.
- B. Person – refers to any person, corporation, organization or political subdivision of the State.
- C. Badge – refers to any official badge used by members of the Department of Public Safety either in the past or currently.
- D. Emblems – shall refer to any official patch or other emblem worn currently or formerly or used by the Department to identify the Department or its employees.

### 1.02.4 Procedures

- A. Requests for permission to use Georgia Department of Public Safety nomenclature, emblems or badges
  - 1. All requests shall be in writing and directed to the Commissioner.
  - 2. The requests shall include the specific emblem or badge that the person wishes permission to use, the manner in which it shall be used, with samples where possible, and all steps that the enterprise shall take to ensure that the person, and its efforts are not confused with the Department of Public Safety, the Georgia

State Patrol, Motor Carrier Compliance, Capitol Police or the members of the Uniform Division of the Georgia Department of Public Safety (Georgia State Troopers, MCCD Officers or Capitol Police Officers).

3. The requests shall include the name, address and telephone number of the person requesting permission.
4. If the request is from a business, corporation or non-profit, the request shall be signed and verified by the national chief executive officer and the state director. It shall also be signed by the local agent for service of process if that individual is different than the state director.

B. Criteria

1. The Commissioner shall have sole discretion to approve or deny requests.
2. The Commissioner shall not approve the use of Georgia Department of Public Safety emblems or badges where the Commissioner determines that the use of such emblems or badges would cause confusion on the behalf of the general public or might otherwise cause embarrassment or discredit to the Georgia Department of Public Safety.
3. No permission shall be granted where the person intends to use the Georgia Department of Public Safety emblems or badges for any political purpose. No use of emblems or badges shall be approved for used for any political purpose or in any political campaign.

C. Revocation of permission

1. Permission, may be revoked by the Commissioner at any time and shall be revoked if the person violates the permitted use, or, this policy.

D. Appeals

1. If the Commissioner denies such request and the person making such request reasonably believes that the Commissioner has acted in bad faith or based on an illegal motive, then the person may, within 15 days after the person's request was denied or granted on limited terms, file an appeal with the Board of Public Safety.
2. The appeal shall be in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 35-2-84.