

January 25, 2001

H 5. LAW OFFICER DISCIPLINE. *TO STANDARDIZE THE INVESTIGATION AND DISCIPLINE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND TO PROVIDE FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW OF DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS.* Adds new GS Ch. 17F dealing with investigation and discipline of law enforcement officers. Provides that state agency or department, municipality, or political subdivision must have just cause to discharge, suspend, or demote for disciplinary reasons any law enforcement officer. Requires employing agency to establish minimum due process procedures available to officer before the agency imposes any disciplinary action (not limited to discharge, suspension, or demotion). Sets out elements of minimum due process procedures. Allows those agencies that have an established civil service system, agency review board, civilian complaint board, or personnel board that meets minimum standards or otherwise provides due process to retain established procedures. Provides that if employing agency considers officer's continued presence on the job to be a substantial and immediate threat to the welfare of the agency or the public, agency may immediately suspend officer with pay. Also permits suspension of officer for refusing to obey properly issued direct order; officer may make a request to be heard by a complaint review board after suspension is imposed. Effective Oct. 1, 2001, and applies to investigations and disciplinary proceedings that begin on or after that date.

Intro. by Hensley.

Ref. to Rules	GS 17F
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