

# OAK LAWN PARK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL

## **Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy**

### **Purpose**

The Oak Lawn Park District has implemented this policy in response to overwhelming evidence that alcohol and drug abuse has a detrimental impact on employees' health, job performance, safety, and efficiency. Since Park District employees operate, supervise and maintain parks, facilities, programs, and equipment for use by members of the public and perform services that may have a direct effect on the health and safety of members of the public and fellow employees, the Park District wishes to assure the health and safety of its patrons and employees.

This policy also expresses the Park District's desire to satisfy the requirements of the federal and state Drug Free Workplace Acts (41 U.S.C.A. § 701 et seq. and 30 ILCS 580/1 et seq.). In accordance with these statutes and concerns, the Park District has resolved to maintain a drug free workplace.

The purpose of this policy is to inform employees of the Park District's investigation, treatment and disciplinary policy relating to alcohol and drugs. As such, all Park District employees will abide by its terms. As with all policies in this Manual, this policy is subject to periodic addition, modification, or deletion.

This policy does not replace any of the provisions or requirements of the Park District's Controlled Substance and Alcohol Testing Policy for position that require a Commercial Driver's License (CDL). See Alcohol and Drug Procedures For CDL Employees Policy.

Park District employees who operate Park District commercial motor vehicles and possess a commercial driver's license have special responsibilities necessitated by the fact that they operate vehicles that require additional skill and attentiveness over that of non-commercial motor vehicles. As part of its continuing commitment to safety and to comply with federal law, the Park District has established a controlled substance and alcohol testing policy for Park District positions that require a commercial driver's license ("Alcohol and Drug Procedures For CDL Employees Policy "). Both the Park District and the federal government recognize that it is important to establish programs to help prevent accidents and injuries resulting from the misuse of alcohol or use of controlled substances by drivers of commercial motor vehicles. The Alcohol and Drug Procedures For CDL Employees Policy is in addition to and supplements and complements rather than supersedes all other Park District policies, rules, procedures, and practices, including without limitation this Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy. However, for persons to whom the Alcohol and Drug Procedures For CDL Employees Policy applies, in the event of any conflict between any of the provisions of the Alcohol and Drug Procedures For CDL Employees Policy and the provisions of any other Park District policy, rule, procedure, or practice, the provisions of the Alcohol and Drug Procedures For CDL Employees Policy will control.

### **Acts Prohibited**

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance, including cannabis and alcohol, is prohibited on Park District Property or while acting on behalf of the Park District.

### **Definitions**

For purposes of this Policy, the following definitions apply:

1. "Alcohol" means any substance containing any form of alcohol, including but not limited to: ethanol, methanol, propanol and isopropanol.
2. "Cannabis" is defined as provided in the Cannabis Control Act (720 ILCS 550/1 et seq.) which provisions are specifically incorporated in this Policy by reference.

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3. "Controlled Substance" means a controlled substance in schedules I through V of section 812 of Title 21 of the United States Code, which provisions are specifically incorporated in this Policy by reference.
4. "Criminal Drug Statute" means a criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of any controlled substance or cannabis.
5. "Director" is the Director of Parks and Recreation of the Oak Lawn Park District.
6. "District Property" means any building, park, gym, pool, office, common area, open space, vehicle, parking lot, or other area owned, leased, managed, used or controlled by the Park District. District Property also includes property used by Park District patrons while on Park District sponsored events or field trips or property of others when presence thereon by the Park District employee is related to employment with the Park District.
7. "Drugs" mean Legal Drugs and controlled substances, including cannabis.
8. "Legal Drugs" mean prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs which have been obtained legally and are being used in the manner and for the purpose for which they were prescribed or manufactured.
9. "Medical Facility" means any physician, laboratory, clinic, hospital, or other similar entity.
10. "Policy" means this Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy of the Oak Lawn Park District.
11. "Possess" means to have either in or on an employee's person, personal effects, desk, files, or other similar area.
12. "Public Safety Responsibility" means a position in which the nature of an employee's duties is such that impaired perception, reaction time, or judgment may place a member or members of the public or other employees at risk of serious bodily harm, or is responsible for the administration or enforcement of alcohol/drug policies.
13. "Under the Influence" means that the employee is affected by alcohol or drugs in any determinable manner. A determination of being under the influence can be established by a professional opinion, a scientifically valid test, a layperson's opinion, or the statement of a witness.

### **Voluntary Treatment**

It is the responsibility of each employee to seek assistance before alcohol or drug problems lead to disciplinary action. The Park District will not discipline an employee who voluntarily seeks treatment for a substance abuse problem if the employee is not in violation of the Park District's drug and alcohol policy or other rules of conduct. Seeking such assistance will not be a defense for violating the Park District's drug and alcohol policy, nor will it excuse or limit the employee's obligation to meet the Park District's policies, rules of conduct, and standards including, but not limited to, those regarding attendance, job performance, and safe and sober behavior on the job. Employees who suffer from alcohol or drug abuse are encouraged to consult voluntarily with Park District management and undergo appropriate medical treatment. Participation in such treatment will be at the employee's expense, although some of these expenses may be covered under the employee's group health plan. Please see the Superintendent of Finance and Personnel for details. Park District management will attempt to keep such voluntary discussions and medical treatment confidential in accordance with this Policy.

### **Screening And Testing**

The Park District may require employees whose job functions require them to operate or maintain vehicles or machinery, handle hazardous or toxic materials or substances of any kind, or have Public Safety Responsibility to be screened or tested on a random basis, or may require any employee to be screened or tested following a work place accident involving a possible violation of safety rules, during and after an employee's participation in an alcohol or drug counseling or rehabilitation program, or upon reasonable suspicion that the employee is under the influence of alcohol or drugs. The

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screening or testing will be conducted by a medical facility selected by the Park District at the Park District's expense. The screening or testing may require an analysis of the employee's breath, urine and/or blood or such similar substance as the medical facility may recommend. Employees who undergo alcohol or drug screening or testing will be given the opportunity, prior to the collection of a specimen or other testing, to disclose the use of legal drugs and to explain the circumstance of their use. If an initial test is positive, a second test will be conducted from the same sample. A confirmed positive drug and/or alcohol test may result in disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Each Park District employee is required to sign a consent form, a copy of which is included with this Policy, at the time this Policy is distributed to the employee. Prospective employees applying for positions that require a commercial driver's license will be required to sign a consent form prior to taking the pre-employment drug screening. Prospective employees for positions that require a pre-employment physical will be required to sign a consent form prior to taking the pre-employment physical.

Each employee and prospective employee may also be required to sign a separate consent form requested by the Medical Facility conducting the screening or testing. Refusal to sign any requested consent form will result in non-hire or disciplinary action up to and including dismissal, as deemed appropriate by the Park District, in its sole discretion, under the circumstances.

### **Treatment**

If the medical facility recommends treatment, the Park District may, depending on the circumstances as determined in the sole discretion of the Park District, give the employee one opportunity to undergo treatment offered by a clinic or trained professional mutually acceptable to the Park District and employee.

Participation in such treatment will be at the employee's expense. The employee must enter the treatment program within ten (10) days from the time of recommendation of treatment. The Park District may reinstate the employee provided that the employee submits a statement issued by the medical facility certifying successful completion of the treatment program, that the employee is released to return to work, and that the employee agrees to all conditions of reinstatement as determined by the Park District, which may include, but is not limited to, future alcohol and/or drug testing.

### **Use Of Legal Drugs**

Any employee who operates or maintains a vehicle or machinery, handles hazardous materials or substances of any kind, or has public safety responsibility and who has taken a legal drug must report the use of such legal drug to their immediate supervisor if the legal drug may cause drowsiness or if it may alter judgment, perception or reaction time. The burden is on the employee to ascertain from the employee's doctor or pharmacist whether or not the legal drug may have such a potential side effect. The information will be retained by the Park District in a confidential manner and will be disclosed only to persons who need to know. The employee's immediate supervisor, after conferring with the department head or Director, will decide whether or not the employee may safely continue to perform the job while using the legal drug. Failure to declare the use of such legal drugs may be cause for discipline up to and including dismissal.

### **Notice Of Convictions**

Any employee who is convicted of violating any federal or state criminal drug statute must notify the Director within five (5) days of such conviction. For purposes of this notice requirement, a conviction includes a finding of guilt, a no contest plea, and/or an imposition of sentence by any judicial body for any violation of a criminal statute involving the unlawful manufacture, distribution, sale, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or cannabis. Failure to notify the Director may subject the employee to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

### **Discipline/Penalties For Violation**

1. An employee who reports to work or is found during working hours to be or to have been under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances, or cannabis or who manufactures, possesses, uses, sells or dispenses alcohol,

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controlled substances, or cannabis while on District property or while acting on behalf of the Park District, is convicted of a drug related crime, causes financial or physical damage to the Park District property, its employees or patrons as the result of alcohol or drug abuse, or fails to report the use of legal drugs in accordance with this Policy, will be disciplined in accordance with the Disciplinary Action Section of the Park District's Personnel Policy Manual. In addition to or in the alternative, depending on the circumstances as determined by the Park District in its sole discretion, the Park District may require the employee to successfully complete an alcohol and/or drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by the Park District and by a federal, state or local health law enforcement or other appropriate agency. An employee who participates in a treatment program will be expected to meet job performance standards and comply with all rules established by the Park District. Participation in a treatment program will not, in itself, protect the employee from disciplinary actions should job performance remain unsatisfactory.

2. In addition to the examples of misconduct that may subject an employee to disciplinary action contained in this Policy and the Manual, the Park District will discipline an employee up to and including dismissal for the following: (1) if the employee refuses to submit to diagnosis, testing or screening upon request of the Park District; (2) if the employee tampers in any way with the specimen given to the medical facility for purposes of alcohol or drug screening or testing; (3) if the medical facility recommends treatment and the employee refuses to undergo such treatment; (4) if, while undergoing treatment, the employee fails or refuses to follow the course of treatment; (5) if the employee, during the course of or following treatment, is again under the influence of alcohol or drugs in violation of this Policy; or, (6) if the employee fails to notify the Director of a conviction for violating any federal or state Criminal Drug Statute in accordance with the "Notice of Conviction" section of this policy.

### **Pre-Employment Screening**

As a final prerequisite in the Park District's employment selection procedure, all persons otherwise offered a full-time position with the Park District will be required to undertake a physical examination which includes a drug and alcohol screening test.

### **Inspections**

In order to assure that employees comply with the prohibition on manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing, or using alcohol, controlled substances, or cannabis, employees may be subject to inspection as follows:

1. Lockers, desks, files, vehicles, equipment and other containers and property owned or leased by the Park District and which an employee is permitted to use during employment with the Park District, are and remain the property of the Park District. Employees are not permitted to keep controlled substances, cannabis or alcohol in or on such property. Any such property reasonably suspected of having or holding such substances is subject to search by the Park District.
2. Any refusal to submit to such an inspection will be treated as an act of insubordination and may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

### **Records**

The Park District will maintain medical records relating to alcohol or drug abuse, diagnosis, and treatment confidential and in a file separate from the regular personnel files. Access will be limited to those who need to know. The Park District will not disclose these records to persons outside the Park District without the employee's consent unless disclosure of the records is necessary for legal or insurance purposes.

### **Consent To Drug And/Or Alcohol Screening Or Testing**

I hereby voluntarily consent to submit to drug and/or alcohol screening or testing by a physician, clinic, laboratory or medical facility chosen by the Oak Lawn Park District ("Park District") at the Park District's expense. I hereby consent to the physician, clinic, laboratory or medical facility taking and analyzing a sample or specimen of my breath, urine, saliva, blood and other similar substance. I also authorize the physician, clinic, laboratory or medical facility to disclose his, her or

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its findings, conclusions, and opinions regarding the drug and/or alcohol screening or testing to a Park District official or a designated representative.

I hereby further consent to Park District's contacting my physician or pharmacist to verify my reported use of legal drugs in accordance with the Park District's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy and authorize my physician or pharmacist to provide all information requested by the Park District regarding my use of such drugs, including without limitation the possible effects of such use on my performance of my job functions.

I also acknowledge receiving, reading and understanding the Park District's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy. I understand that, in accordance with this policy, failure to execute this document and submit to drug and/or alcohol screening or testing, or failure to report to the Park District the use of legal drugs as required by the policy, may result in non-hire or disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Employee Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Employee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_