

**AN ORDINANCE OF  
THE TOWN OF SECAUCUS, NEW JERSEY**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-2**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 28 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF  
SECAUCUS ENTITLED "POLICE DEPARTMENT" TO UPDATE QUALIFICATIONS  
AND PROCEDURES FOR APPOINTMENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council have determined that changes to the Ordinance entitled "Police Department" shall be made based upon the review and recommendation of the Secaucus Police Department and Police Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Secaucus, County of Hudson, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. Chapter 28 entitled "Police Department," "§ 28-7 Qualifications for appointments; testing fees," Subsection A of the Code of the Town of Secaucus be, and is hereby repealed and replaced as follows:

A.

All applicants to the police force shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) Must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age at the time of entrance examination and not be over thirty-five (35) years of age at the time of appointment, and not exceed the maximum age requirements to satisfy the Board of Trustees of the Police and Firemen's Retirement System of New Jersey that such person is eligible to membership in the retirement system;
- (2) Be able to read, write and speak the English language well and intelligently;
- (3) Be a citizen of the United States and resident of the State of New Jersey, unless exempted from citizenship by law;
- (4) Possess a high school diploma or general educational development diploma and earned not less than sixty (60) credits from an accredited college or university; or, alternatively, the prospective applicant may substitute full-time service in the United States Military with each year of military service being the equivalent of thirty (30) college credits; service in a Reserve Component or National Guard of the United States military shall be equivalent to 2.5 college credits for every month served on "active duty" status plus .25 college credits for every full day on "drill or annual training" status;
- (5) Possess a valid New Jersey driver's license with no more than four (4) points in the three (3) years previous to the date of application if a New Jersey license, or if the applicant

held a driver's license from a different state than New Jersey, have no more than what would be the equivalent of violations totaling four points in the State of New Jersey during the three years previous to the date of application; and must not have been convicted of two or more offenses of driving while intoxicated as defined under N.J.S.A. 39:4-50 or convicted of driving while intoxicated under N.J.S.A. 39:4-50 within the last five (5) years, or the equivalent if held a driver's license from a different state; and must not have been convicted of two (2) or more motor vehicle offenses for reckless driving pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-96, or the equivalent if held a driver's license from a different state;

- (6) Be sound in body and mind, in good health, in sound physical condition and have no physical disorders, which shall be more particularly evaluated by the physician during the applicant's physical examination;
- (7) Be of good moral character, not lacking in candor and never convicted of any indictable crimes; not committed any crime or other offenses involving moral turpitude, dishonesty or fraud, regardless of conviction; not served parole, probation, pretrial intervention, conditional dismissal or been involved in a similar program in this State or in any other State;
- (8) Not be the subject of a domestic violence restraining order, extreme risk protection order, or sexual assault, criminal stalking or sex offender order issued by a Court in this State or any other jurisdiction;
- (9) Not violated the provisions of the Prison Rape Elimination Act, 28 CFR 115.317;
- (10) Not received a dishonorable discharge from military service;
- (11) Not been decertified as a law enforcement officer or had a law enforcement license or certification as a law enforcement officer revoked, denied or otherwise limited or restricted in this State or any other state at any time;
- (12) Not engaged in any conduct or behavior that would preclude the issuance of a law enforcement license in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:1-12.1;
- (13) Not be a present or former associate or affiliate member of a "street gang" based on a preponderance of the evidence; and
- (14) Not submitted any false, untrue or misleading information, orally or in writing, during the application, qualifications or background investigation process.

2. Chapter 28 entitled "Police Department," "§28-8. Procedures for appointment." of the Code of the Town of Secaucus be, and is hereby amended and supplemented to read as follows: (additions are indicated in **bold**, deletions indicated by ~~strikethroughs~~):

No applicant shall hereafter be given or accept a permanent appointment as a police officer in the Town of Secaucus in the event a departmental background investigation discloses a lack of good moral character, **or willful falsification of any information on the application for appointment submitted in accordance with this chapter during the application, qualification, background investigation or appointment process, either orally or in writing.** Such disqualification shall permanently disqualify the candidate from any future application for appointment as a police officer, as well.

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3. There are no other changes to this Chapter of the Code of the Town of Secaucus.
4. All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.
5. If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to that section, subdivision, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be valid and effective.
6. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication in accordance with law.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED**, that the remainder of this Chapter 28 of the Code of the Town of Secaucus shall remain in full force and effect.

I, Michael Marra, Town Clerk of the Town of Secaucus, County of Hudson, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of an Ordinance introduced and passed on first reading on 1-17-24, 2024 and finally adopted by the Mayor and Council on 1-23, 2024.

*Michael Marra*

Town Clerk

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Mayor

Motion: JG	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Second: OT				
Councilman Costantino	✓			
Councilman McKeever				✓
Councilman Clancy	✓			
Councilman Dehnert				✓
Councilman Gerbasio	✓			
Councilwoman Tringali	✓			
Mayor Gonnelli	✓			

Motion: JG	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Second: Rc				
Councilman Costantino	✓			
Councilman McKeever	✓			
Councilman Clancy	✓			
Councilman Dehnert	✓			
Councilman Gerbasio	✓			
Councilwoman Tringali	✓			
Mayor Gonnelli	✓			