

## **POLICY ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

1. It is illegal and against Town policy for any worker, male or female, to harass another worker by: making unwelcome sexual advances or favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature a condition of any worker's employment; using a worker's submission to or rejection of such conduct as the basis for or as a factor in any employment decision affecting the individual; or otherwise creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment by such conduct.
2. The creation of an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment may include but it is not limited to such actions as persistent comments on a worker's sexual preferences, the display of obscene or sexually oriented photographs or drawings, or the telling of sexual jokes. Conduct or actions that arise out of a personal or social relationship and that are not intended to have a discriminatory employment effect may not be viewed as harassment. The Town will determine whether such conduct constitutes sexual harassment, based on a review of the facts and circumstances of each situation.
3. The Town will not condone any sexual harassment of its employees. All workers, including supervisors and managers, will be subject to severe discipline, up to and including discharge, for any act of sexual harassment they commit.
4. The Town will not condone sexual harassment of its employees by non-employees, and instances of such harassment should be reported as indicated below for harassment by employees.
5. Employees who feel victimized by sexual harassment should report the harassment to their supervisor immediately. If the worker's immediate supervisor is the source of the alleged harassment, the employee should report the problem to the supervisor's superior.
6. Appointing Authorities, Department Heads and Supervisors who receive a sexual harassment complaint should carefully investigate the matter, questioning all employees who may have knowledge of either the incident in question or similar problems. The complaint, the investigative steps and findings, and disciplinary actions (if any) should be documented as thoroughly as possible.
7. Any employee who makes a complaint, or who cooperates in any way in the investigation of same, will not be subjected to any retaliation or discipline of any kind. Employees who are dissatisfied with the investigating superior's resolution of a sexual harassment complaint may file a complaint with the Affirmative Action Officer, who will investigate in the manner indicated in #6 above. The Affirmative Action Officer will recommend, to

the appropriate appointing authority, actions (if any) to be taken as a result of investigative findings. The Affirmative Action Officer is located at Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA 02476 (781) 316-3121.

8. Employees who feel victimized by sexual harassment may also wish to take advantage of any assistance offered by their employee organizations (if any). The Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission are also available to provide assistance. They are located at:

Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD)  
One Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108 (617) 727-3990

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)  
1 Congress Street 10th floor Rm #1001  
Boston, MA 02114 (617) 565-3200

Date	Chair
	Board of Selectmen
Date	
	Town Manager
Date	
	Treasurer
Date	Chair
	Board of Assessors
Date	
	Town Clerk
Date	Kathleen Bodie
	School Superintendent

Updated 4/10/2014

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