

AN ORDINANCE

TO PROVIDE FOR A RE-ORGANIZATION, REGULATION AND GOVERNMENT OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE FORCE OF ST. CROIX.

Be it enacted by the Colonial Council for St. Croix in Session assembled.

1. There shall be in the Municipality of St. Croix an organized Police Force, to be known as "The Municipal Police Force" whose duty it shall be to protect persons and property, maintain and preserve public order, prevent, detect and repress crime, and, within the sphere of its duties, enforce obedience to the laws, and to rules and regulations issued in pursuance of law, throughout the said Municipality.

2. The Municipal Police Force is hereby charged with the direction, management, maintenance and the discipline of all prisons in St. Croix; also with the safe-keeping and activities of all persons confined in any prison in St. Croix.

The Municipal Police Force shall be composed of a Director and four District Chiefs of Police, Inspectors, Sergeants, Patrolmen and Matrons.

3. The actual numerical strength of the Municipal Police Force shall be such as the Governor may from time to time determine, and, excepting as provided in the next section, the maximum shall not exceed forty-two members.

4. In case of riot, or impending, or unusual disturbances, the Director of Police may, if he deem the Municipal Police Force inadequate to maintain law and order, specially deputize any number of citizens of the Island of St. Croix to act as special policemen of the Municipal Police Force. It shall be mandatory for any citizen selected by the Director of Police for special police duty to serve as a member of the Force for a period not to exceed thirty-six hours without pay and such special policemen shall be subject to all rules, regulations and orders governing the Force.

5. The compensation of the Members of the Municipal Police Force shall be as follows per annum:

Director of Police.....	Frcs. 12,000.00
2 District Chiefs of Police @.....	7,500.00
2 District Chiefs of Police @.....	6,600.00
Inspectors @.....	6,000.00
Sergeants @.....	3,600.00
Patrolmen @.....	3,000.00
Matrons.....	2,400.00

6. The supreme authority in respect to the direction and control of the Municipal Police Force and all its duties, shall be vested in the Governor, but the Force shall be under the immediate command and control of the Director of Police, or in his absence of the next highest ranking member of the Force to be known as "Acting Director of Police".

7. The Director of Police is charged with the supervision and administration of the Municipal Police, under the direction of the Governor, from whom he shall

receive orders and to whom he shall submit such reports as may be required. He shall also be, ex-officio sheriff for the Municipality of St. Croix, and for each and all of the Judicial subdivisions of the Island of St. Croix.

The Director is further charged with the following duties.

1. He shall superintend the purchase of all property acquired by the Police Department, certify to the correctness of all vouchers in payment therefor and be responsible for such property.

2. He shall cause to be kept in the Police Headquarters an accurate and complete record of all property of value which may be found, or recovered or which may otherwise come into possession of members of the Police Force, whose owners are unknown, and shall make such disposition as may be required by law.

3. He shall supervise and be responsible for the preparation of all payrolls and vouchers for expenditures on account of the Police Department as well as for the safe-keeping and proper accounting for all monies received by the Police Department.

4. He, or the Acting Director of Police, shall proceed with all possible dispatch to the scene of any serious disorder or unusual occurrence where his presence may be required and will personally take command of the Municipal Police at such place.

8. A District Chief of Police is the commanding police officer of the district to which he is assigned. He is the representative within his district of the Director of Police, whose orders he shall receive and obey, to whom he shall submit required reports and to whom he shall be responsible for the proper supervision of Police affairs in the district to which he is assigned.

He shall be responsible for the proper discipline of those under his command, for their efficiency in police work, their compliance with the rules and regulations governing the Municipal Police Force, the proper care of Government property and equipment in his charge and for the maintenance of such records and files as are required by rule or regulation.

9. Inspectors and Sergeants shall perform such duties as may be assigned them by the Chief of Police or District Chief of Police.

10. It is the duty of Inspectors, Sergeants, Patrolmen to protect life and property, prevent crime and disorder and obey the orders of their superior officers; while on patrol duty to constantly patrol the streets and other places on their beats, acquaint themselves with the people by sight, name places of residence and occupation, take possession of lost property found, delivering it to their Commanding Officers; to treat courteously all persons who ask for information or assistance and render proper aid to persons requiring it; to give their names and numbers to any persons who ask for it; to use all possible diligence in secur-

ing evidence relating to any crime and to conduct themselves at all times in an orderly, respectful and moral manner.

They shall render protection to people assembled at all public meetings of a lawful nature and maintain order there at.

They shall thoroughly investigate before making a report, and shall not become involved in disputes or intrigues.

11. The Director of Police, the District Chiefs of Police, and the Inspectors shall be appointed by the Governor. All other members of the Force shall be appointed by the Director of Police.

The Director of Police shall have full power to suspend, with or without pay, discharge, or reduce in grade any appointment made by him.

12. The Director of the Municipal Police Force is hereby authorized to prepare rules and regulations concerning the detail and duties and to further the proper discipline and maintenance of the Municipal Police Force, and, to provide penalties for the violations of rules and regulations. Appeals for such penalties lie to the Governor, whose decision thereon shall be final.

13. The Director of the Municipal Police Force is charged with the management, direction and maintenance of all prisons and jails in St. Croix. He shall be in charge of all property belonging to the prisons and jails, and he shall keep an account of all expenses, and render such reports as may be requested by the Governor.

He shall receive and confine, or cause to be received and confined all persons charged, or hereafter charged or convicted of an offense against the laws in force in St. Croix in accordance with the terms of the mittimus or commitment duly issued by a competent authority, and he shall safely keep such persons until discharged by due course of law.

14. The Director of Police is hereby authorized to make all rules and regulations necessary or needful for the control of the prisoners and to provide penalties for the violation thereof which shall be submitted to and approved by a committee of three members named by the Colonial Council.

15. The Ordinance of August 31, 1918, providing for a Municipal Police Force for St. Croix is hereby repealed, excepting sections eleven and twelve thereof.

Thus duly passed at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Colonial Council held Monday, November 17, 1919.

Christiansted, St. Croix, November 19, 1919.

D. C. CANEGATA, ROBT. L. MERWIN,
Secretary. Chairman.

The above Ordinance is hereby sanctioned and approved.

Witness my Hand and the Seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States at St. Thomas, the 6th day of December, in the year 1919.

(SEAL)

J. W. OMAN,
Governor.