

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-2

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13, ENTITLED APPLICATION PROCESS, OF CHAPTER 114, ENTITLED POLICE DEPARTMENT

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge, County of Bergen, New Jersey, that Section 13, entitled Application Process, of Chapter 114, entitled Police Department, of the Code of the Borough of Wood-Ridge is hereby amended as follows:

SECTION 1. Replace Part “D” of Section 13 in its entirety as follows:

- D. Civil Service Alternate Route Process - Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter to the contrary, applicants may be appointed to the position of police officer pursuant to P.L. 2021, c. 406, (N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3) and the rules and regulations promulgated by the New Jersey Civil Service Commission without being required to pass the entry-level Civil Service Law Enforcement Exam, provided they have not previously completed a police officer training course approved by the NJ Police Training Commission prior to their appointment. Applicants under this process must meet all other eligibility criteria and qualifications, undergo all other pre-employment screening and evaluation processes, and be evaluated based upon all other criteria and standards as provided by this chapter. Applicants appointed pursuant to this process shall be appointed as a temporary entry-level police officer and must successfully complete a police officer training course approved by the NJ Police Training Commission within 9 months from their date of appointment.

All appointments made pursuant to this process must comply with the following policies:

- (1) Conflict of Interest Policy - No official or employee of the Borough shall participate in any aspect of the application, evaluation, or appointment process pursuant to N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3, as permitted by this section, when any applicant is their relative or has any personal, pecuniary or financial interest with them that would prevent the official or employee from being impartial when participating in the application, evaluation, or appointment process. Whenever an official or employee has such a conflict, he or she shall notify the Borough Administrator of the conflict and shall not participate in the process.
- (2) Anti-Nepotism Policy - No applicant may be appointed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 11A:4-1.3, as permitted by this section, if they are a relative of the Mayor, a member of the Borough Council, or the Chief of Police.
- (3) Definition of Relative - For purposes of this section, the term “relative” shall include a parent, spouse, domestic partner, child, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother, sister, brother-in-law, sister- in-law, nephew, niece, uncle, aunt, stepparent,

stepchild, stepgrandchild, stepsibling, half-sibling, and the spouses and children of a stepsibling or half-sibling.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. If any part, sections, provisions, or the total of any of the abovementioned publications are held to be invalid or unenforceable by any court, the findings or judgments of which court are applicable in the State of New Jersey, that the balance and remainder of such publication shall remain in full force and effect as an Ordinance of the Borough of Wood-Ridge.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption and publication according to law.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

PAUL A. SARLO
Mayor

GINA AFFUSO
Borough Clerk

Introduced:	2-19-25
Published:	2-24-25
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