

TOWN OF SIMMESPORT

MAYOR TED TURNER

DISTRICT I
GLENN GAUTREAUX

DISTRICT III
CHARLES DUPAR



DISTRICT II
ALVIN DAUZAT

DISTRICT IV
SHERMAN BELL

ALDERMAN AT LARGE
PATRICK WRIGHT

ORDINANCE 10-2025-02

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM HIRING STANDARDS FOR POLICE OFFICERS

Whereas, the Town of Simmesport operates under the Lawrason Act (La. R.S. 33:321 et seq.), which provides for a mayor and board of aldermen form of government;

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.S. 33:362(A)(3), subject to law, including [R.S. 33:423.2](#) and 423.3, and applicable civil service rules and regulations, the board of aldermen shall, by ordinance, provide policies and procedures regulating the employment of municipal employees including the hiring and firing of such employees;

Whereas, R.S. 33:404(A)(3) authorizes the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to fix compensation and provide for the performance of duties of municipal employees, including appointed officials;

Whereas, La. R.S. 33:406(B)(1) provides that a proposed ordinance may be introduced by any alderman at any board meeting and each proposed ordinance shall be in writing;

Now, therefore, be it ordained, by the Town Council of the Town of Simmesport that the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Simmesport be amended as follows:

Minimum Hiring Standards for Town of Simmesport Police Officers

Purpose: To establish clear minimum standards for all current and future police officers of the Simmesport Police Department, ensuring that personnel meet professional, ethical, and legal qualifications required to serve the community.

Scope: This policy applied to all current sworn officers and any future applicants for sworn positions within the Simmesport Police Department.

Policy Statement: The Town of Simmesport Police Department shall employ only those individuals who meet the minimum standards of integrity, professionalism, and training as required under Louisiana law and the Louisiana Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Council. All candidates must demonstrate good moral character, freedom from disqualifying criminal convictions, and possession of the qualifications necessary to perform police duties effectively.

Requirements:

1. All applicants and current officers shall be subject to a thorough background investigation, including criminal history and personal references.

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2. No applicant or officer shall be employed or remain employed if they have been convicted of a felony under state or federal law.
3. All applicants must provide verifiable references from previous employers, as listed on their resume or application.
4. Failure to provide satisfactory references may disqualify the applicant from consideration.
5. All officers must meet or exceed the minimum standards established by the Louisiana Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Council.
6. Officers must successfully complete POST-approved training and maintain active certification as required by law.
7. The Police Department shall maintain documentation of all background checks, employment references, and POST certification records for each officer.
8. The Chief of Police or designee shall ensure all background checks and employment reference verifications are completed prior to finalizing any hiring decision.
9. Proof of POST certification (or enrollment in POST training, if applicable) must be documented before an officer may perform official duties.
10. Any exception to these requirements must be approved in writing by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, consistent with applicable law.

This Ordinance having been introduced on the ____th day of October, 2025, by Town of Simmesport, with a motion by Councilman _____ and seconded by Councilman _____ and a vote of the Town Council of the Town of Simmesport as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alderman Gautreaux	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alderman Dauzat	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alderman Dupar	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alderman Wright	_____	_____	_____	_____

Thereafter, notice of public hearing having been published, said public hearing having been held on _____th, 2025 at 5:30 PM, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, on motion of Councilman _____, seconded by Councilman _____, to adopt the Ordinance, a record vote was taken and the following was had:

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	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Bell	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alderman Gautreaux	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alderman Dauzat	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alderman Dupar	_____	_____	_____	_____
Alderman Wright	_____	_____	_____	_____

Whereupon, the presiding officer declared the above Ordinance duly adopted on the _____th day of _____, 2025.

Honorable Ted Turner

Mayor

Honorable Gwen Barr

Town Clerk