Ethics, or ethikos, derived from ancient Greek (freeonlinedictionary.com), means one’s theory of living. A philosophy that one uses to make decisions that are considered right or wrong. Society has ethics to help improve 1) __ human condition and to give a 2) __ of fairness to the quality of life. A 3) __ code of conduct, one’s internal moral 4) __, is paramount to having justice in 5) __ society.

Nowhere in our country is 6) __ behavior watched more closely than that 7) __ our nation’s police officers. Police officers 8) __ expected to abide by the highest 9) __ of conduct in both their personal 10) __ professional lives. They, like doctors and 11) __, have a creed, a code, and 12) __ oath that all must ascribe to 13) __ order to join the ranks of 14) __ colleagues. The code of conduct for 15) __ states that all officers must respect 16) __ protect the individual’s right to human 17) __. The officer must protect life, liberty, and 18) __ and strive to maintain the 19) __ for all. He or she must 20) __ discretion, have integrity, apply laws fairly, 21) __ the commands of superiors, and be 22) __ of other lifestyles, religions, ideas and 23) __. Off duty, officers must be impeccable 24) __ their own conduct. They must demonstrate 25) __ that would not discredit themselves or 26) __ department. They must keep their political 27) __ separate from their professional lives and exercise 28) __ in forwarding their political ideals while 29) __ duty. Officers must never abuse the 30) __ which has been extended to them.

31) __ agencies are also instrumental in insuring 32) __ every police officer upholds the highest 33) __ of integrity and ethics. Departmental policies 34) __ spell out, in clear and specific 35) __, the actions and behaviors that are 36) __ and those that are not tolerated. 37) __, departments need to provide professional development 38) __ that focus on how officers can 39) __ and maintain their ethical and moral 40) __.