

Mobile Device Acceptable Use Policy

Purpose

Mobile devices are commonly being used in almost all departments to increase performance in the field and extend communications beyond the office. The City is committed to provide and promote this technology as appropriate to add value to the community by delivering high quality services at the lowest possible cost.

Scope

This Policy establishes the rules and conditions for City-supplied cell phones and privately-owned mobile devices being used to conduct City business. Mobile devices are defined as any electronic device with the ability to transmit or receive data, text, and/or voice, via a cellular network. This includes but is not limited to smartphones, cellular equipped tablets, laptops, and mobile hot-spots.

All City employees and contractors issued and accepting City mobile devices and services will be expected to maintain compliance with this policy.

General Policy

1. Department or division telecommunications coordinator will recommend who qualifies for a City issued cellular device based on department needs.
2. With proper authorization, a City employee may be issued multiple mobile devices with enabled cellular service. Employees needing to connect multiple devices to either the Internet or a cellular service provider should work with ITMD for alternative solutions and technologies. Such technologies may include smart phone tethering or a temporarily assigned Mi-Fi access point.
3. All City device service usage records produced by assigned mobile devices are property of the City and managed by the City. Usage summary reports (i.e. number of minutes or GB of data used) are distributed to department telecommunications coordinators regularly and are periodically reviewed by ITMD. Detailed usage reports, including call history, are available to any supervisor upon request by contacting ITMD.
4. Employees may use the device for incidental personal use, however a City mobile device is intended for business use. They should be cautious about the merging of personal and work activities on their devices. See other policies that may apply such as Email Use Policy and the City of Milwaukee Internet Use guidelines.
5. If an employee elects to use his or her personal device for City business they should be made aware that they could be required to share their usage in an open records request or in the event of litigation. The City does not offer per-call reimbursement or provide stipends for personal monthly cellular service usage.

6. Mobile devices that access email and other City services must be secured using passwords/pin. Devices may not be “rooted” or “jailbroken” or have any software/firmware installed which is designed to gain access to functionality not intended to be exposed to the user.
7. Employees must not load pirated software or illegal content onto their devices. If you are unsure about any specific application, contact ITMD.
8. Mobile device management software is used to enforce mobile device security requirements for City-issued mobile devices and personal devices that access City resources. This software may include the ability to require passwords, limit installation of software, push security updates, locate the device, and remotely wipe (erase all data and reset to factory defaults) mobile devices. A wipe removes everything on the device. The City of Milwaukee is not responsible for any personal data on the device lost in this process.
9. Any non-City of Milwaukee e-mail, instant messaging, social media, or other accounts should not be used to conduct City-related business. If an official record is received or generated using text-messaging or any other third-party service, the employee must save the record to City systems that are routinely backed up and archived to comply with open records laws.
10. Employees in possession of City-issued mobile devices are expected to secure the equipment from loss or damage. If the cellular device is lost or damaged, the employee should report this to ITMD. ITMD will remotely reset the cell phone to factory defaults (remote wipe the device) and the device will be replaced with a device that is capable of performing similar City business as the original device. There is no guarantee that such a replacement device will be the same make or model device that was lost or damaged. Under circumstances where it is determined that the employee is responsible for damage to, or misuse of, their issued mobile device, disciplinary action may be taken.
11. Purchase of and billing for mobile devices and services will be coordinated by ITMD with the department or division telecommunications manager. Purchases without the knowledge and involvement of ITMD is not allowed for ITMD-supported departments.
12. In situations where job responsibilities include regular driving and acceptance of business calls, hands-free equipment may be provided to facilitate the provisions of this policy. Under no circumstances are employees required to place themselves at risk or break the law to fulfill business needs. Employees who are charged with traffic violations resulting from the use of their phone while driving will be responsible for all financial liabilities and associated penalties that result from such actions.

Compliance

ITMD or the Department Telecommunications Coordinator will notify the Employee if there is a compliance concern, so the Employee may rectify any inadvertent breaches of policy expeditiously. Any continued or serious compliance concerns will be immediately referred to the Employee supervisor for potential disciplinary action.

City records are prohibited from being permanently stored on a mobile device. Only copies of documents may be stored on a mobile device for extended periods. City records (including documents, photos, videos, or any other City record) created on a mobile device are to be transferred by the user as soon as practical to City systems that are routinely backed up and archived.

City-issued mobile devices are City owned property. If the device is no longer needed for City business, it is to be returned to ITMD. Mobile devices deemed excess property are re-sold through the City's established excess property disposal procedures and methods. Departments or Divisions may not sell, trade-in, or give-away new or used City cellular or communication devices.

Upon resignation or termination of employment, employees are expected to promptly return the mobile device. Employees who separate from employment without returning City equipment or who incur charges after separation may be subject to legal action for recovery of the loss.

Individual departments may have additional restrictions, based on specific needs or policies of the department.

Enforcement

Any employee who is found to have violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.