

The Office of
County Sheriff

Presented by:

**Brian C. Hawthorne, Sheriff
Chambers County**

Who is Sheriff Brian Hawthorne?

- 2nd term as Chambers County Sheriff
- 34 years in Law Enforcement
- 28 years-retired DPS Highway Patrol
- Special Assistant to Director McCraw
- Sergeant, Highway Patrol Division
- Trooper, Highway Patrol Division
- President of DPS Officers Association
- Trustee of Local Mental Health Authority

WHO IS YOUR SHERIFF?

- Usually the person with the second biggest ego in the county.
- I'll let you decide who is number one.
 - District Judge?
 - County Judge?
 - County Commissioner? Or
 - District Attorney?

Objectives

- History
- Constitutional Authority
- Current Legal Authority
- Basic Responsibilities
- Additional Programs and Duties
- Issues

History of the Office of Sheriff

- Created by the Texas Constitution
- History indicates, Stephen F. Austin requested authorization in 1827
- First Sheriff in Texas appointed 1828

Constitutional Authority

- Office supercedes similar office of Spanish and Mexican rule
- 1836 Congress of the Republic
- Civil War
- Texas Constitution of 1876
- Peace Officer Status

Current Legal Authority

- Texas Constitution Article 5, Section 23
- Proposition 5

Assuming Office

- Bond
- T.C.O.L.E.
- T.C.J.S.
- Audits
- Inventories

If the topic is underlined...

- The Sheriff needs your help and consideration in these matters.
- It is about budget.
- \$

Basic Responsibilities

- 911 Dispatch, Communication Services
- Patrol – Call for service
- Criminal Investigative Services
- Crime Prevention Services, Public Information Officer, & Community Relations
- Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Basic Responsibilities

- Court House Security – Senate Bill 42
- Warrant Service
- Civil Process
- Asset Forfeitures

Basic Responsibilities

- Fleet Management
- Records Management
- Bail Bonding
- Jail Operations – TCJS
 - Senate Bill 1849
 - Local Mental Health Authority
 - Design, Construction and Maintenance

Basic Responsibilities

- Registration and Data Collection
 - Racial Profiling Reports
 - Uniform Crime Reports
 - Inmate Tracking
 - TCIC & NCIC
 - Sex Offender Registration
 - Victims Services/Victim Notification Everyday (VINE)

Additional Duties and Programs

- SWAT or SRT
- School Resource Officers and Security
- Marine or Lake Patrol
- Animal Control Services

Issues

- Blue Warrant inmates in Texas County Jails
- Funding for MHMR, TDCJ and mental health services
- Mental health patients impact on county jails
- Methamphetamine Manufacture, Dealing & Abuse
- Border Security – 287 G program working w/ICE

Review

- History
- Constitutional Authority
- Current Legal Authority
- Basic Responsibilities
- Issues

- Brian C. Hawthorne
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Resources

- www.capitol.texas.gov/txconst/toc.html
- www.capitol.texas.gov/statutes/statutes.html
- www.capitol.texas.gov/statutes/petoc.html
- www.capitol.texas.gov/statutes/gvtoc.html
- www.tcole.texas.gov
- www.tcjs.state.tx.us
- www.txsheriffs.org/
