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

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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/