

# HIDALGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

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## DEPUTY SHERIFF

### **SUMMARY:**

May be assigned to patrol, narcotics, civil process, warrants, courthouse security, criminal investigation or school policing. Depending on area to which assigned, may perform primarily undercover and surveillance work, patrol work, civil and criminal process serving or investigative work.

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

#### **Criminal Enforcement Division**

Depending on area to which assigned, may perform any of the following duties:

- Patrol an assigned area, generally by vehicle, to prevent crimes and enforce laws and regulations;
- Respond to emergency calls and routine complaints and take action as necessary;
- Issue traffic citations and direct traffic;
- Investigate traffic accidents and crimes against persons and property and assist federal, state and local law enforcement officials;
- Keep records of activities and make reports concerning crimes, complaints, accidents and investigations;
- File cases with District Attorney or U.S. Attorney;
- Make lawful arrests for violations of laws for the State of Texas and local government ordinance and/or resolution;
- Serve felony, misdemeanor and mental commitment warrants and make arrests;
- Serve court papers including writs, summons, subpoenas, capias, etc.;
- Question witnesses and suspects and take statements and depositions;
- Assist other law enforcement agencies as needed;
- Perform surveillance of suspects and assigned locations;
- Meet with informants and conduct undercover narcotics work;
- Handle and care for dogs involved in narcotics investigations;
- Conduct background investigations on applicants for law enforcements and corrections positions;
- Serve as a bailiff in county and district courts;
- Gather and label evidence, take photographs and fingerprints, guard and transport prisoners and testify in court;
- May address and work with community groups to promote good public relations and to inform citizens of police activities and crime prevention;
- May be responsible for animal control, especially relating to cattle on roadways;

- Return persons who have been arrested to county in other locations in and out of state;
- Regular attendance is a must.
- Ability to work well with others.

### **In School Policing**

- Respond to emergency calls within the school assigned. Handle routine complaints and take action as necessary;
- Issue traffic citations and direct traffic;
- Investigate crimes against persons and property and assists federal, state and local law enforcement officials;
- Keep records of activities and makes reports concerning crimes, complaints, accidents and investigations;
- File cases with District Attorney, U.S. Attorney, or Hidalgo County juvenile authorities;
- Make lawful arrests for violations of laws for the State of Texas and local government ordinance and/or resolution.
- Serve felony, misdemeanor and mental commitment warrants and make arrests;
- Question witnesses and suspects and take statements;
- Assist other law enforcement agencies as needed;
- May handle and care for dogs involved in narcotics investigations;
- Gather and label evidence, take photographs and fingerprints, guard and transport prisoners and testify in court;
- May address and work with community and school groups to promote good public relations and to inform citizens, students, and school faculty of police activities and crime prevention;
- Will interact with students and school faculty on a daily basis;
- Will be involved in participating and providing security for school related activities and functions;
- Will coordinate with Deputy Sheriffs assigned to other schools, criminal enforcement division and other law enforcement agencies for their participating or providing security for school related functions and activities;
- Will report directly to the school assigned rather than the sheriff's department on a daily basis, unless otherwise instructed;
- Perform such other related duties as may be assigned by the Sheriff's Department.

### **SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- May be asked to oversee special details involving two or more officers.

### **QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential duties and responsibilities.

**EDUCATION and/or EXPERIENCE**

- High School diploma or GED;
- At least one (1) year of law enforcement related experience preferred;
- Bilingual is preferred.

**CERTIFICATES, LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS**

- Applicant must possess a current Basic Peace Officer Certification from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standard and Education;
- Employee must have a current valid Texas Motor Vehicle Operator's License;
- Must be able to be insured by the County's Insurance carrier;

**OTHER SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

- Ability to understand and follow written and oral instructions, departmental policy, rules, regulations and laws.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other county employees and officials, law enforcement agencies and the general public;
- Ability to analyze situations and adopt a quick, effective and reasonable course of action;
- Ability to write clear and concise reports and to maintain complete records as required;
- Ability to learn the use and care of vehicles, firearms and specialized equipment;
- Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing.
- Good physical condition.
- Ability to solve basic mathematic problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division;
- Ability to use decimals and percentages in solving such problems.
- Ability to speak, read and write in the English language;
- Ability to read and interpret documents such as safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions and procedure manuals.
- Ability to write routine reports and correspondence;
- Ability to speak effectively before groups of employees or organizations;
- Ability to also speak and write in Spanish preferred.
- Ability to solve practical problems and deal with a variety of concrete variables in situations where only limited standardization exists;
- Ability to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral, diagram or schedule form.
- Employee may be assigned other duties in addition to those listed; duties may change according to the changing needs of the County.

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job;

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is required to talk or hear. The employee is required to stand. The employee is required to walk; sit; use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls; reach with hands and arms; climb or balance; stoop, and kneel; The employee may have to physically subdue and restrain uncooperative suspects, prisoners and/or inmates.

The employee must regularly lift and/or move up to ten (10) pounds, occasionally lift and/or move up to twenty-five (25) pounds, and in emergency situations, lift persons with body weight ranging from 100 to 250 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.

**WORK ENVIRONMENT:**

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job;

While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works in various types of outside weather conditions. The employee occasionally works near moving mechanical parts; in high precarious places; with explosives; and in occasionally exposed to fumes or airborne particles, and toxic or caustic chemicals, and risk of electrical shock.

The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate;

**SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:**

Maintain physical condition appropriate to the performance of assigned duties and responsibilities which may include the following:

- sitting for extended periods of time;
- operating assigned equipment;

Maintain mental capacity which permits:

- making sound decisions and using good judgment;
- maintaining confidentiality;
- demonstrating intellectual capabilities;

Effectively handle a work environment and conditions which involve:

- working closely with others;
- working in a multi-task environment;

Maintain effective audio-visual discrimination and perception needed for:

- making observations;
- reading and writing;
- operating assigned equipment;
- communicating with others;

**ACCIDENT PREVENTION PROGRAM:**

Required to follow all departments' safety regulations;