

# HIDALGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## SERGEANT (PATROL)

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

May be assigned to patrol, narcotics, court processes or criminal investigation work. Depending on area to which assigned, may perform primarily undercover and surveillance work, patrol work, civil and criminal process serving or investigating work.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

**Depending on the area of criminal enforcement 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

Keeps records of activities and makes reports concerning crimes, complaints, accidents, and investigations

Files cases with district attorney or U.S. attorneys

Make lawful arrests for violation of laws for the State of Texas and local governments 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

Assist other law enforcement agencies as needed

Meets with informants and conducts undercover narcotics investigations

Conducts background investigations on applications for law enforcements and correction positions

Gathers and labels evidence, takes photographs and fingerprints, guards and transports prisoners and testifies 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 in Hidalgo County to other locations in and out and out of state

Approved subordinates reports and insure subordinates complete their daily assigned duties

Regular attendance is a must

Ability to work with others

### **SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Will supervise those investigations, deputy sheriffs, communication officer, and civilian personnel that have been placed in his/her charge

Will ensure that subordinate personnel in his/her charge carry out day to day duties as defined by job description, level of responsibilities; department goals, and applicable federal and state laws

Shall report both orally and in written form, poor job performance, violations of department policy, and violations of federal and state laws involving and subordinate or officer of same of higher rank, through established chain of command

### **GENERAL QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES**

#### **Experience and Education**

Graduation from a high school or equivalent (GED)

Four (4) years experience as a Peace Officer immediately preceding the date of application

Applications for employee should reflect any increases in responsibilities during previous or current employment

Bilingual (Spanish and English) with ability to converse fluently in both languages

**Certificates, Licenses & Registration**

Applicant must possess a current Peace Officer Certification from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education

Must have a current valid Texas motor vehicle operator's license

Must be able to be insured by County's insurance carrier

**Knowledge, 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 or in writing

Good physical condition

Ability to solve basic mathematical problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division

Ability to use decimals and percentages in solving such problems

Ability to speak, read, and write in English

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 standardizations exist

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 stand, walk, talk and hear. The employee frequently is required to sit; use hands to finger, handle or feel objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms; stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl. Employee subdues and restrains uncooperative inmates, runs, climb stairs, pushes heavy doors, handles and distributes heavy food/drink containers.

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 inmates 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. Employee utilizes all visual abilities to keep and maintain control of inmates.

### **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 frequently works near moving mechanical parts such as the doors and gates throughout the prison. The employee is occasionally exposed to fumes and airborne particles. The risk of electrical shock is present because of the large amount of electrical equipment which the officer encounters during the shift. The employee may be required to work outdoors or in areas where temperatures could exceed 100 degrees Fahrenheit or below 0 degrees Fahrenheit.

The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

### **SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:**

Maintain physical conditions 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
- 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
- communication with others
- required to follow the Hidalgo County Accident Prevention Plan and department's safety regulations