

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## HIDALGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

\*\*SHERIFF J.E. "EDDIE" GUERRA, P.O. BOX 1228, EDINBURG, TEXAS 78541 (956) 383-8114\*\*

### APPLICATION FOR INTERNSHIP

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT: Read all questions carefully and answer as completely as possible. Leave no answer spaces blank. Should an answer not permit to you, enter the word "No, None" or "Not Applicable" in the space. All information submitted is subject to clarification. A false or misleading response may result in disqualification for employment or discharge from future employment with Department.

We consider applicants for all positions without regard to race, color, religion, creed, sex, citizenship, national origin, age, disability, marital or veteran status or any other legally protected status.

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- A. 18 years of age
- B. In good academic standing at the school they are attending (if applicable)
- C. Legally authorized to work in the United States
- D. Must not have any convictions of a misdemeanor above a Class B, and/or a crime of moral, or a felony
- E. Subject to a criminal history check
- F. Memorandum of Understanding with the education institution must be on file with the Sheriff's Office (if applicable)

*Any documents not submitted at the time of application will not be considered. Xerox copies of the above documents will be acceptable with the exception of "C". Documents submitted with the applications will not be returned. Applications submitted to the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department will be kept on file for six (6) months.*

*Failure to comply with all instructions will result in rejection of application*



**Criminal Activity:**

Have you **ever** been arrested or detained by law enforcement?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, complete the following table:

Agency	Offense	Date	Location	Outcome

Other than crimes that would have been sealed by juvenile records, have you ever committed – or assisted another person in the commission of – a felony crime, serious misdemeanor, or a crime involving moral turpitude that went undetected or unreported to law enforcement? If yes, explain:

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List ALL drugs you ever used, tried, experimented to include legal drugs used without a prescription, etc:

Name of drug	# Times in life	Last time used	Form used (Smoked, injected, snorted, etc)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

**Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement  
Internship Program**

**CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT**

As an employee/intern of the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office, I understand and agree to the following:

1. All information, whether verbal or documented, which I receive and work with in accordance to my job description and any other related job duties is the property of my employer. I expressly agree that all such information will be held in strict confidence.
  
2. I further understand and agree that if I release any confidential information referred to in above paragraph #1, other than to the Sheriff's Office, or as directed, further disciplinary action will be taken inclusive of termination of my employment/internship program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Internship Program

### INTERNSHIP AGREEMENT AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to participate in an internship with The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office, County of Hidalgo, Texas, in an unpaid capacity, as outlined in this agreement. I hereby certify that I am at least 18 years of age at this time, and that I am legally authorized to work in the United States. \_

I hereby agree to comply with all relevant policies, procedures and requirements as outlined in the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Internship Program, Personnel Policy Manual and/or Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office policies or rules. I understand that I may not receive compensation for my services provided during the internship period, and that no other benefits will be provided. I understand that my placement in this internship is at-will and that I may be terminated at any time at the discretion of the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office.

I hereby voluntarily release, discharge, waive and relinquish any and all action or causes of action for personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death occurring to me as a result of my internship with Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office. I hereby release, waive, discharge and relinquish any actions or causes of actions aforementioned, which may hereafter arise for me and my estate, and agree that under no circumstances will I prosecute or present any claim for personal injury, property damage or wrongful death against the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office, the County of Hidalgo, or any of its agents and employees for any said cause of action., whether the same shall arise by negligence of any said persons, or otherwise. It is my intent by this instrument to exempt and release, indemnify and hold harmless the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office, the County of Hidalgo, and any its employees, its elected or appointed officials, employees and agents for any personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death cause by negligence.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING PARAGRAPHS AND HAVE BEEN FULLY AND COMPLETELY ADVISED OF THE POTENTIAL DANGERS INCIDENTAL TO PARTICIPATING IN AN INTERNSHIP AND AM FULLY AWARE OF THE LEGAL CONSEQUENCES OF SIGNING THIS INSTRUMENT.

**Print Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement  
Internship Program**

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility criteria:

- \_\_\_ 18 years of age. DL#: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ In good academic standing at the school they are attending (if applicable).
- \_\_\_ Legally authorized to work in the United States.
- \_\_\_ Must not have any convictions of a misdemeanor above a Class B, or committed a crime of moral turpitude, or a felony.
- \_\_\_ Subject to a criminal history check.
- \_\_\_ Memorandum of Understanding with the education institution must be on file with the Sheriff's Office (if applicable).

Internship Program Participation Assignment:

- \_\_\_ Patrol
- \_\_\_ Civil Process
- \_\_\_ Investigations
- \_\_\_ Crime Scene Specialist & Evidence/Property
- \_\_\_ Crime Prevention

**Internship Duration:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Internship Program

## Purpose

The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Internship Program is a valuable learning experience for educators, college and/or university students and graduates seeking a career in Criminal Justice or other related fields. The program introduces Interns to various aspects of Law Enforcement which will enhance their understanding of the criminal justice system. The length of the Internship is determined by the Intern's educational institution curriculum or a predetermined time frame as agreed to by the HCSO. The HCSO's internships are non-paid positions.

## Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. 18 years of age.
2. In good academic standing at the school they are attending (if applicable).
3. Legally authorized to work in the United States.
4. Must not have any convictions of a misdemeanor above a Class B, or committed a crime of moral turpitude or a felony.
5. Subject to a criminal history check.
6. Memorandum of Understanding with the education institution must be on file with the Sheriff's Office (if applicable).

## Guidelines and Restrictions

Interns will conform to the dress code of business casual wear and are not permitted to wear any type of clothing that could be construed as a law enforcement uniform. Interns shall be provided a copy of the Hidalgo County Personnel Policy Manual; must complete the pre-employment training and enrollment requirements prior to commencing; and will sign all relevant forms and acknowledgments as applicable, including but not limited to: personnel policy acknowledgment, harassment, nondiscrimination, and waiver of liability release form (as applicable).

The Intern must abide by all existing Federal, State, County, District laws, rules and/or regulations. The participating office/department will be responsible for orienting students to the organization. Orientation should include, but is not limited to the following:

- A clear list of expectations, duties, and goals;
- Section-specific policies and procedures;
- A list of the resources available to the Intern (i.e., a workstation that has been set up for the Intern, supplies and items needed by the Intern); and
- Any other relevant information for the Intern to be successful during the course of the Internship.

All Interns are considered at-will placements, and the placement can be terminated at any time at the discretion of the HCSO.

Upon completion of the Internship period, Interns are not automatically entitled to a paid position within the County, and/or the HCSO.

## Standards of Conduct

All Interns must abide by the standards of conduct as outlined in the Hidalgo County Personnel Policy Manual and The HCSO Policy Manual (as applicable), and are responsible for complying with the required standards of conduct.

At a minimum, all Interns are required to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times and to use discretion when dealing with sensitive matters and confidential information. Interns will conform to the dress code of business casual wear and are not permitted to wear any type of clothing that could be construed as a law enforcement uniform. Interns must maintain hygiene and grooming in a business-like manner that is appropriate to the section placement and which reflects positively on the HCSO. If any policy or standard of conduct is violated by the Intern during the Internship period, the Intern will be terminated at the discretion of the HCSO.

## Internship Assignment Duties and Responsibilities

Interns may be assigned to a structured schedule within various sections within the four major divisions of the HCSO, to include the following:

- 1. Patrol Deputy:** The Intern will accompany a Patrol Deputy during their tour of duty. The Intern will have a better understanding of patrol operations. He/She may experience an arrest or subdue resisting subjects while employing defensive tactic maneuvers. The Intern may be a part of a situation involving a pursuit involving speeds that are in excess of posted limits while exercising due care and caution. The Intern will be exposed to the paperwork involved with each contact made.
- 2. Civil Process:** The Intern will see firsthand how civil citations, subpoenas, and protective orders are assigned to civil deputies. The Intern will experience riding along with the deputy in his daily service of serving legal documents. They may assist a transport deputy in transporting inmates or patients to various destinations. They will gather files and receive identifiers to facilitate the transportation of a wanted subject from other counties or out of state.
- 3. Investigations:** The Intern will sit through CID briefing in the morning and shadow the experiences of an Investigator. The Intern will begin with an **Intake Investigator** and experience the beginning process of arrest cases that were completed during the night. The Intern will experience the arraignment process and would assist the Intake Investigator in handling misdemeanor cases such as Harassment, Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle, and Assaults. Later, the Intern will learn the tasks of a **Juvenile Investigator**. The Intern will experience firsthand the various cases involving youth

offenders. When a juvenile is apprehended for the first time after violating the law, the process is very different compared to an adult offender. The Intern will learn several aspects of the Juvenile Justice system ranging from processing of juveniles through the legal system to the acceptance into the Juvenile Detention Center. The Intern will spend a day with a **Criminal Investigator** and experience the caseload assigned to each specialty Investigator on a daily basis. They may experience an interview with the complainant and the process necessary to pursue criminal charges. The Intern may also experience the interview or interrogation process, review cases, and prepare the presentation of facts for a detailed DA case for court. They will learn the process of safeguarding and submitting any property recovered.

**4. Crime Scene Specialist:** The Intern will spend time with a Crime Scene Specialist and experience firsthand the recovery of DNA, how to process and secure evidence and how to submit evidence to the proper crime laboratory. They may also attend an autopsy that did not occur involving a criminal offense. They will experience the execution of a search warrant of a vehicle or residence. They will become familiarized with the Mobile Crime Scene Unit and learn the procedure utilized in handling, and processing weapons recovered at a crime scene. If court is in session, and a Crime Scene Specialist is testifying, the Intern may experience firsthand court testimony. The Intern will tour the **Evidence/Property Room** and learn the procedures involved in the safekeeping of evidence.

**5. Crime Prevention:** The Intern will work closely with Deputies in the Crime Prevention Unit. They may assist with design, creation, or updating content of pamphlets, power points or face book posts. The Intern may assist or interact in communication with stakeholders, or other agencies. The Intern may also support special projects like advancing neighborhood partnerships, or special events, presentations to schools, health fairs, or other crime prevention activities. The Intern will have the opportunity to partake directly in the community to identify issues that need to be addressed, obtain information regarding crime occurring in that area and increase the citizen's awareness through a continuous information program.

## Evaluation/Summary Report

All Interns should be provided with ongoing feedback on how well they are meeting the goals and expectations of their Internship. At the conclusion of the internship, the intern will provide a written evaluation of the field experience emphasizing all aspects of the program, to include any recommendations.

If applicable, participating sections/divisions shall be responsible for abiding by any formal requirements that an educational institution may require of a participating Intern.

It is our goal to enhance the Intern's understanding of the criminal justice system and every effort will be made to keep the Intern out of life threatening situations.

**Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement  
Internship Program**

**INTERNSHIP AGREEMENT AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

I, Delcio Mejia, agree to participate in an internship with The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office, County of Hidalgo, Texas, in an unpaid capacity, as outlined in this agreement. I hereby certify that I am at least 18 years of age at this time, and that I am legally authorized to work in the United States. \_

I hereby agree to comply with all relevant policies, procedures and requirements as outlined in the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Internship Program, Personnel Policy Manual and/or Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office policies or rules. I understand that I may not receive compensation for my services provided during the internship period, and that no other benefits will be provided. I understand that my placement in this internship is at-will and that I may be terminated at any time at the discretion of the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office.

I hereby voluntarily release, discharge, waive and relinquish any and all action or causes of action for personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death occurring to me as a result of my internship with Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office. I hereby release, waive, discharge and relinquish any actions or causes of actions aforementioned, which may hereafter arise for me and my estate, and agree that under no circumstances will I prosecute or present any claim for personal injury, property damage or wrongful death against the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office, the County of Hidalgo, or any of its agents and employees for any said cause of action., whether the same shall arise by negligence of any said persons, or otherwise. It is my intent by this instrument to exempt and release, indemnify and hold harmless the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office, the County of Hidalgo, and any its employees, its elected or appointed officials, employees and agents for any personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death cause by negligence.

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING PARAGRAPHS AND HAVE BEEN FULLY AND COMPLETELY ADVISED OF THE POTENTIAL DANGERS INCIDENTAL TO PARTICIPATING IN AN INTERNSHIP AND AM FULLY AWARE OF THE LEGAL CONSEQUENCES OF SIGNING THIS INSTRUMENT.

Print Name

Delcio Mejia

Signature

Manuel Mejia

Date

08/19/2022