

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE

TITLE 3. ORGANIZATION OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT

SUBTITLE B. COMMISSIONERS COURT AND COUNTY OFFICERS

CHAPTER 86. CONSTABLE

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 86.001. ELIGIBILITY TO SERVE AFTER BOUNDARY CHANGE.

A person who has served as the constable of a precinct for 10 or more consecutive years before a change is made in the boundaries of the precinct is not ineligible for reelection in the precinct because of residence outside the precinct if the constable's residence is within the boundaries of the precinct as they existed before the change.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 149, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.

Sec. 86.002. OATH; BOND. (a) Before entering on the duties of office, a person who is elected to the office of constable must execute a bond with two or more good and sufficient sureties or with a solvent surety company authorized to do business in this state. The bond must be payable to the governor and the governor's successors in office and conditioned that the constable will faithfully perform the duties imposed by law. The bond must be approved by the commissioners court of the county. The commissioners court shall set the bond in an amount of not less than \$500 or more than \$1,500.

(b) A person who is elected constable must also take and sign the constitutional oath of office. The oath shall be endorsed on the bond, together with the certificate of the officer who administers the oath. The bond and oath must be deposited and recorded in the office of the clerk of the county court.

(c) The bond is not void on the first recovery but may be sued on from time to time in the name of an injured party until the whole amount of the bond is recovered.

(d) A person who is elected or appointed to the office of constable and who has given the necessary bond and taken the oath of office may immediately perform the duties of the office. The acts of the constable are as valid in law as if the constable were commissioned.

(e) Repealed by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 683, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1995.

Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 149, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.
Amended by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 683, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1995.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1094 (H.B. [2120](#)), Sec. 18, eff. September 1, 2005.

Sec. 86.0021. QUALIFICATIONS; REMOVAL. (a) A person is not eligible to serve as constable unless:

(1) the person is eligible to be licensed under Sections [1701.309](#) and [1701.312](#), Occupations Code, and:

(A) has at least an associate's degree conferred by an institution of higher education accredited by an accrediting organization recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board;

(B) is a special investigator under Article [2.122](#)(a), Code of Criminal Procedure; or

(C) is an honorably retired peace officer or honorably retired federal criminal investigator who holds a certificate of proficiency issued under Section [1701.357](#), Occupations Code; or

(2) the person is an active or inactive licensed peace officer under Chapter [1701](#), Occupations Code.

(b) On or before the 270th day after the date a constable takes office, the constable shall provide, to the commissioners

court of the county in which the constable serves, evidence that the constable has been issued a permanent peace officer license under Chapter [1701](#), Occupations Code. A constable who fails to provide evidence of licensure under this subsection or who fails to maintain a permanent license while serving in office forfeits the office and is subject to removal in a quo warranto proceeding under Chapter [66](#), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

(c) The license requirement of Subsection (b) supersedes the license requirement of Section [1701.302](#), Occupations Code.