

Serving the people who serve the people of North Carolina

The North Carolina Sheriffs' Association is the statewide organization of our state's Sheriffs. Through their Association, the Sheriffs work to strengthen the professional law enforcement services that their offices provide to the people of North Carolina.

From its state headquarters in Raleigh, the Sheriffs' Association:

- Monitors actions by the General Assembly, government agencies and the courts that affect law enforcement and the criminal justice system -- and acts as an advocate for the interest of the Sheriffs' Offices.
- Works with various agencies of state government to coordinate programs that are important to law enforcement.
- Provides a central information clearinghouse for the Sheriffs' Offices.
- Supports training and standards programs for the Sheriffs' Offices.
- Acts as a statewide voice for the Sheriffs.
- Maintains a working relationship with the National Sheriffs' Association, as well as Sheriffs and other law enforcement related associations in other states.
- Promotes and operates the Honorary Membership program, including periodic informational mailings to the members.

A national leader in training and standards

Through their Association, North Carolina's Sheriffs have developed a program of professional standards and training for their offices that is a national model.

- North Carolina established the first Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission in the United States.
- The quality of course work and hours of training required are among the highest in the nation.
- To attract and retain qualified individuals, salaries and benefits have been increased.

Scholarship Program

Through their Association, North Carolina's Sheriffs offer a scholarship program that gives deserving college students the opportunity to pursue higher education opportunities in the field of criminal justice. Twenty \$1,000 scholarships per year are offered at four-year programs in North Carolina colleges and universities.

Looking to the Future

With a solid foundation of achievement in place, the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association is striving to give the state's citizens even better service in the future. The Association's goals include:

- Continued programs to assure the highest quality of Deputies in service. To attract and keep the best individuals in law enforcement, pay and benefits must reflect the jobs they are asked to do.
- Continued opposition to weakening our criminal laws.
- Stronger protection for the rights of victims of crime and witnesses who assist in prosecuting criminals.
- Building relationships with other law enforcement agencies in our State and our neighboring states.
- A permanent headquarters based in the State Capitol with facilities for training.
- Learning from -- and building upon -- programs sponsored by the National Sheriffs' Association.



The Office of Sheriff

The Sheriff is one of the oldest, most important and most respected offices in our nation's system of law and justice.

Its origins and responsibilities are rooted deeply in historical England. Only the office of King is older and has greater dignity.

The Office of Sheriff was transplanted to America by the early colonists. The founding fathers made it an elected office, because they were determined that the Sheriff would be responsible to the people.

Today – throughout the nation – the Sheriff continues to exercise vitally important responsibilities in all three branches of our criminal justice system: law enforcement, jail/corrections and court duties.

In the State of North Carolina, Sheriffs are Constitutional Officers, elected by the people of their counties. On call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, their responsibilities include:

- Patrolling the counties and enforcing the law.
- Maintaining and operating jails.
- Properly serving civil process papers, essential to all legal actions.
- Providing security for North Carolina's courtrooms.

North Carolina's Sheriffs take pride in their tradition. They take seriously their duties and their responsibilities to the people of North Carolina. And they are taking the initiative to meet the challenges of a changing society.

For more information, please contact:

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The North Carolina Sheriffs' Association, Inc. is a non-profit, tax exempt organization recognized by the I.R.S.

Our tax identification number is 56-1079943. We are licensed by the State of North Carolina.

The Oldest Public Office in North Carolina...



And It's Just Beginning to Grow.

*Serving the Sheriffs and Citizens of
North Carolina since 1922*

*The North Carolina Sheriffs'
Association, Inc.*