



HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Version #: 2

Title: Ch. 1.2.10 Sheriff's Posse TCA 8-8-213

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PURPOSE:

Authorize the Sheriff of Hamilton County to establish a "Sheriff's Posse" as defined by TCA 8-8-213 and appoint citizens of Hamilton County to assist in the protecting of the residents of Hamilton County and its interest as needed.

DEFINITIONS:

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Posse will consist of volunteer citizens of Hamilton County and in good standing in the community, which will assist the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office only when the Sheriff of Hamilton County applies TCA 8-8-213 (b) authorizing the Sheriff's Posse to aid and assist regular sworn officers and support employees of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office in their assigned duties.

REGULATIONS

All citizens selected by the Sheriff of Hamilton County as a Sheriff's Posse member will act under the direction of the Sheriff of Hamilton County and the established chain of command of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office when activated. The member(s) of the Sheriff's Posse shall be directed by the Sheriff of Hamilton County and will be assigned to sworn certified deputies when representing the Sheriff of Hamilton County and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

APPAREL AND APPEARANCE

Uniform requirements will be established by the Sheriff of Hamilton County or his designee at the time of call up. No Sheriff Posse member(s) will be required to maintain a departmental uniform.

EQUIPMENT

Hamilton County Sheriff's Office will not provide equipment to any Sheriff's Posse member(s) until the time of call up. The Posse member(s) activated will be issued the required equipment to accomplish their assigned task. The Posse member(s) will be trained and must fully understand the proper use of the equipment issued.

EXTERNAL/INTERNAL COMPLAINTS



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The standard of professional behavior will be the same for Sheriff's Posse member(s) as that of regular deputies. Complaints against a Sheriff's Posse member(s) will be dealt with at the discretion of the Sheriff of Hamilton County.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The Sheriff of Hamilton County will appoint a full-time deputy at the rank of Sheriff's Sergeant or higher as coordinator-supervisor of the Sheriff's Posse member(s) at the time of activation. The coordinator will report to the Deputy Chief of Law Enforcement Services.

COMPENSATION:

Sheriff's Posse member(s) may not receive compensation by salary.

DEPLOYMENT:

TCA 8-8-213: Conservator of peace-summoning posse-

(a) The Sheriff and the Sheriff's Deputies are conservators of the peace, and it is the Sheriff's duty to suppress all affrays, riots, routs, unlawful assemblies, insurrections, or other breaches of the peace, detect and prevent crime, arrest any person lawfully, execute process of law, and patrol the roads of the county.

(b) The Sheriff shall furnish the necessary deputies to carry out the duties set forth in subsection (a), and if necessary, may summon to the sheriff's aid as many of the inhabitants of the county as the Sheriff thinks proper.

When the Sheriff of Hamilton County applies TCA 8-8-213, at that time Sheriff Posse member(s) will be given the oath of office and will become sworn deputies.

MAINTAINING SHERIFF'S POSSE ROSTER:

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Director of Administration shall maintain a file on each citizen selected as Sheriff's Posse member(s). The file must contain current contact information in the case the Sheriff of Hamilton County activates the Sheriff's Posse member(s) in a time of need.

SHERIFF'S POSSE IDENTIFICATION CARDS:

When a citizen has been selected by the Sheriff of Hamilton County as a Sheriff's Posse member the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Director of Administration shall



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issue the citizen a "Sheriff's Posse" Identification Card. The Sheriff's Posse member(s) must agree to the following and sign a waiver and acknowledgement stating that they understand the following:

- 1) The Identification Card grants NO Law Enforcement Authority nor does it give any Posse member(s) the authority to possess firearms: Posse member(s) cannot identify themselves as a deputy sheriff, unless, the Sheriff of Hamilton County **chooses to apply TCA 8-8-213 (b) and has authorized the call up of the Sheriff's Posse** to assist in the protection of the citizens of Hamilton County and its interest. Then and only then shall the designated "Sheriff's Posse" have lawful authority to represent the Sheriff of Hamilton County.
- 2) Understands the Identification Card does not translate into any law enforcement immunity;
- 3) Citizen of Hamilton County Posse member(s) must not have been arrested or convicted of any felony or domestic violence violation and the Posse member(s) must be a citizen of Hamilton County and in good standing in the community;
- 4) The Identification Card will be eligible for surrender upon request of the Sheriff of Hamilton County or any deputy sheriff of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, if found to be used improperly or if the Posse Member is arrested for any criminal offense.
- 5) Attempt to use the Identification Card in a manner other than set out in this policy- the card holder agrees to indemnify the Sheriff's Office from any losses as a result of such misuse.

The Identification Card will have "RESTRICTED" concerning Weapons Authority printed on the back. Restricted will be defined as: No authority to possess a firearm until the Sheriff of Hamilton County has applied TCA 8-8-213 and activated the member(s) of the Sheriff's Posse.

[See Attachments/ Highlight Waiver and then click Download](#)