



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney
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Re: New Career Opportunities Available at the Hernando County Sheriff's Office

Date: August 26, 2014

Sheriff Al Nienhuis is pleased to announce new career opportunities being made available to residents interested in a career as a Hernando County Deputy.

The position of Public Service Technician is an excellent opportunity to start a career with the HCSO. It will prepare individuals for advancement to other positions, such as Deputy Sheriff.

Public Service Technicians (PST) support the Patrol Division by responding to specific non-emergency law enforcement-related calls for service, permitting patrol deputies to remain available to respond to higher priority/emergency calls for service. PSTs provide additional assistance on emergency calls as directed, so patrol deputies can focus on law enforcement-related duties. PSTs are often seen providing traffic control and assisting disabled vehicles.

This position will allow individuals to learn various law enforcement skills by responding to a variety of non-emergency law enforcement calls for service (i.e., abandoned vehicles, citizen assists, directing traffic, recovered/lost property, investigating minor traffic accidents).

This is an excellent career opportunity for individuals that may be interested in becoming a Deputy Sheriff in the future. This new program will mentor PSTs for future law enforcement academy positions that the HCSO will be sponsoring. Sponsorship includes paid tuition, books, uniforms, and other costs associated with academy attendance. The HCSO will also provide schedule adjustments to assist the employee in attending the academy during off-duty hours. If you would like to “get your foot in the door” as a PST with hopes of obtaining one of the future HCSO sponsored academy slots, this is your opportunity.

As a PST, you will be gaining seniority within the agency, time in the Florida Retirement System, paid vacation and sick time, and many other benefits. As you are mentored during this time, you will gain valuable knowledge that will assist as you progress through the law enforcement academy.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis said, "I frequently hear citizens comment that they, a friend, or a relative would love to become a Hernando County Deputy. I immediately inquire into their background and whether they have attended a law enforcement academy. All too often, the person has a great background, a great driving record, and a desire to serve, but has no way of attending the academy. This program allows the participants to obtain valuable on the job training while they attend the academy in the evening. That firsthand experience, and our willingness to provide financial support and mentoring during the academy, will result in a deputy with a head start on their peers. Many of my best deputies and agency leaders held a civilian position while attending the academy. This program is formalizing the successes we have achieved with that career path. I know that those residents who are dedicated to becoming great deputies will jump at this program. I am excited to provide these future deputies, who otherwise couldn't fulfill their dream, with the opportunity to serve and protect their community."

If you are interested in joining our team, visit the link at the bottom of this page (follow to Public Service Technician). Please complete the two page preliminary application and return it to Human Resources at the HCSO no later than 09-12-14.

At the close of the posting, a member of our staff will contact all individuals regarding a PST Orientation. The orientation will provide details about the position, the agency, and the opportunity. Representatives will be on hand to answer any questions.

At the conclusion of the orientation, interested individuals will be provided with a full application for employment (that can be taken home for completion).

PST orientation dates will be held at the end of September; dates and times to be determined.

<http://www.hernandosheriff.org/applications/hrjobpostings/>