

**The Office of  
County Sheriff**

*Presented by:*

**Brian C. Hawthorne, Sheriff  
Chambers County**

1

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Who is Sheriff Brian Hawthorne?**

- 2nd term as Chambers County Sheriff
- 34 years in Law Enforcement
- 28 years-retired DPS Highway Patrol
- Special Assistant to Director McCraw
- Sergeant, Highway Patrol Division
- Trooper, Highway Patrol Division
- President of DPS Officers Association
- Trustee of Local Mental Health Authority

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**WHO IS YOUR SHERIFF?**

- Usually the person with the second biggest ego in the county.
- I'll let you decide who is number one.
  - District Judge?
  - County Judge?
  - County Commissioner? Or
  - District Attorney?

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Objectives**

- History
- Constitutional Authority
- Current Legal Authority
- Basic Responsibilities
- Additional Programs and Duties
- Issues

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**History of the Office of Sheriff**

- Created by the Texas Constitution
- History indicates, Stephen F. Austin requested authorization in 1827
- First Sheriff in Texas appointed 1828

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Constitutional Authority**

- Office supercedes similar office of Spanish and Mexican rule
- 1836 Congress of the Republic
- Civil War
- Texas Constitution of 1876
- Peace Officer Status

6

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Current Legal Authority**

- Texas Constitution Article 5, Section 23
- Proposition 5

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Assuming Office**

- Bond
- T.C.O.L.E.
- T.C.J.S.
- Audits
- Inventories

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**If the topic is underlined...**

- The Sheriff needs your help and consideration in these matters.
- It is about budget.
- \$

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Basic Responsibilities**

- 911 Dispatch, Communication Services
- Patrol – Call for service
- Criminal Investigative Services
- Crime Prevention Services, Public Information Officer, & Community Relations
- Homeland Security & Emergency Management

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Basic Responsibilities**

- Court House Security – Senate Bill 42
- Warrant Service
- Civil Process
- Asset Forfeitures

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Basic Responsibilities**

- Fleet Management
- Records Management
- Bail Bonding
- Jail Operations – TCJS
  - Senate Bill 1849
  - Local Mental Health Authority
  - Design, Construction and Maintenance

12

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Basic Responsibilities**

- Registration and Data Collection
  - Racial Profiling Reports
  - Uniform Crime Reports
  - Inmate Tracking
  - TCIC & NCIC
  - Sex Offender Registration
  - Victims Services/Victim Notification Everyday (VINE)

13

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Additional Duties and Programs**

- SWAT or SRT
- School Resource Officers and Security
- Marine or Lake Patrol
- Animal Control Services

14

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Issues**

- Blue Warrant inmates in Texas County Jails
- Funding for MHMR, TDCJ and mental health services
- Mental health patients impact on county jails
- Methamphetamine Manufacture, Dealing & Abuse
- Border Security – 287 G program working w/ICE

15

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Review**

- History
- Constitutional Authority
- Current Legal Authority
- Basic Responsibilities
- Issues

• Brian C. Hawthorne  
mobile# 281-924-7293  
office # 409-267-2500

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

16

**Resources**

- [www.capitol.texas.gov/txconst/toc.html](http://www.capitol.texas.gov/txconst/toc.html)
- [www.capitol.texas.gov/statutes/statutes.html](http://www.capitol.texas.gov/statutes/statutes.html)
- [www.capitol.texas.gov/statutes/petoc.html](http://www.capitol.texas.gov/statutes/petoc.html)
- [www.capitol.texas.gov/statutes/gvtoc.html](http://www.capitol.texas.gov/statutes/gvtoc.html)
- [www.tcole.texas.gov](http://www.tcole.texas.gov)
- [www.tcjs.state.tx.us](http://www.tcjs.state.tx.us)
- [www.txsheriffs.org/](http://www.txsheriffs.org/)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

17