

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on the responsibilities and operations of volunteer Laramie County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Posse members.

Policy

The LCSO Posse members are sworn volunteer Special Deputies with no law enforcement authority. Special Deputy status allows the Posse members to access criminal justice information for administrative duties only. At no time will LCSO Posse members act in a law enforcement capacity, nor will they portray themselves as law enforcement officers. Members will support the organization by doing various administrative duties and community-oriented activities. LCSO Posse members will conduct non-law enforcement activities related to public safety, traffic control, community watch, and crime prevention initiatives, in addition to other administrative duties related to vehicle registration and vehicle identification inspections and support to the Wyoming courts and detention facilities. Posse members are representatives of LCSO to the community and will act in a professional and polite manner when fulfilling Posse duties or wearing any uniform or insignia related to LCSO.

LCSO Posse Recruitment

Applicants for the LCSO Posse will follow the application guidelines established by the Posse Lieutenant and Professional Standards. At a minimum, the following documentation will be provided by the applicant:

- Personal History Questionnaire (PHQ)
- Completed Application
- Authorization to Release Information

After all required information is received, LCSO will initiate a background investigation to ensure the applicant's suitability for the position. During the background investigation, criminal history checks will be conducted. While some criminal history is not an immediate elimination of service, the omission of criminal history from the PHQ and application may result in a denial of the applicant. Immediate disqualifying factors include, but are not limited to:

- Felony Conviction
- Property Crime Conviction
- Driving Under the Influence Conviction
- Misdemeanor Crime of Domestic Violence Conviction

LCSO Responsibilities

- LCSO will provide training and guidance to Posse members prior to any operational duty that is outside the scope of normal day-to-day activity.
- LCSO will provide adequate equipment required for any activity that requires specialized resources.

- LCSO will provide a uniform and safety vest to Posse members as required for volunteer activities.

LCSO Posse Member Individual Responsibilities

- Members are responsible for performing 16 hours of volunteer time with LCSO per month at a minimum. The time can be a combination of operational activity and training.
- Members are responsible for attending monthly meetings to obtain training and operational updates on the program.
- Members may be expected to operate a Laramie County owned vehicle after required training. If a member is not authorized to operate a vehicle or if there is a change in the ability to legally operate a vehicle, they are responsible for notifying the LCSO Posse Sergeant or Lieutenant. Members will obey traffic laws.
- Members are responsible for notifying the LCSO Posse Sergeant or Lieutenant if any change occurs in their criminal history. If a change occurs that would fall under the disqualifying factors listed in the LCSO Posse Recruitment section above, the individual will no longer perform duties as a LCSO Posse member.
- Members are expected to follow all LCSO policies related to personnel management and organizational operations as applicable.
- Members will not portray themselves as a law enforcement officer at any time and will notify LCSO deputies when they observe any activity that is suspicious or may be criminal in nature. Members shall only activate vehicle emergency lights as necessary for scene safety and when the vehicle is stopped.
- Members shall maintain the confidentiality of public safety information and open investigations as required by law and LCSO policy. Members shall not use criminal justice information for personal reasons.
- Members will not be armed during LCSO Posse activities, unless the member is volunteering for LCSO firearms training courses.

Potential Duties

- Traffic Control
- Community Watch Coordination
- Business Security Patrols
- Vehicle Identification Verification
- Administrative Support
- Project Lifesaver
- Residence and Vacation Checks
- Elderly Home Visits
- Detention Visitation Support

Termination of LCSO Posse Membership

As this is a volunteer position, a LCSO Posse member can end their service at any given time. Service will also be ended if an individual does not fulfill the individual responsibilities identified

in the LCSO Posse Member Individual Responsibilities section above. At the conclusion of service, the member will return any identification badges and all uniform items as required.

Insurance Coverage and Exceptions

Volunteer and posse members acting under department direction and control, within the scope of their duties, are covered by liability insurance provided by WARM. Individual medical claims must first be filed with the volunteer's personal medical coverage before being eligible for supplemental medical coverage by Laramie County. Volunteers are not covered by workers compensation.