

DUTIES OF THE SHERIFF

The County Sheriff is the sheriff of the courts, maintains public peace, and has custody of the county jail. As chief enforcement officer of the circuit and chancery courts, the sheriff's office, which includes the sheriff and deputies, is charged by constitutional and statutory law with the execution of summons, enforcement of judgments, orders, injunctions, garnishments, attachments, and the making of arrests on warrants issued by the courts. The sheriff also opens and attends each term of circuit and chancery court and notifies residents selected to jury duty, assists in handling witness and prisoners during a given court term.

The sheriff, or a member of that staff, often prepares and assembles evidence of the Prosecuting Attorney's case against defendants charged with both felonies and misdemeanors. The sheriff also transports convicted prisoners and others declared by the court to the various penal and mental institutions of the state.

The sheriff in every county has the custody, rule and charge of the county jail and all prisoners committed in his county (ACA 12-41-502). The sheriff shall be conservator of the peace in his county (ACA 14-15-501). It shall be the duty of each sheriff to quell and suppress all assaults and batteries, affrays, insurrections, and unlawful assemblies; and he shall apprehend and commit to jail all felons and other offenders (ACA 14-14-1301). The sheriff also works with the various local municipal law enforcement officials or other state and federal officials charged with law enforcement.