

Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office

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For Immediate Release

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Black Hawk County Jail to Begin Hiring Civilian Detention Officers

After several years of exploring potential efficiencies for jail division staffing, and pursuant to recent successful contract negotiations with the deputy's union, Sheriff Tony Thompson has elected to begin the process of soliciting and hiring civilian detention officers to transition most of the jail deputy positions currently found in the jail staff.

"This move will be made slowly through attrition, replacing sworn deputies with civilians over time. While the county has enjoyed the professionalism and dedication of having sworn deputies in these positions for several decades now, I also recognize the beneficial financial impact for the taxpayers of Black Hawk County" says Sheriff Thompson.

Black Hawk County is one of only a couple counties who still employ deputy sheriffs to work in the county jail. Recent law changes, which more widely recognize the role and authority of the civilian jailer, and the necessity to explore creative responses to low recruitment and applicant pools for sworn civil service positions have also contributed to this decision.

"For those potential applicants who are looking for an introduction to a career in criminal justice, or those who know what it is to work long days with minimal compensation and are looking for an employment opportunity that will present them with quality pay and

A CRIMINAL CHARGE IS MERELY AN ACCUSATION AND THE DEFENDANT IS PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.

employment benefits, the jail presents an advantageous employment opportunity.

Successful hires will also be performing a much needed professional service to our county,” according to Sheriff Thompson. Applicants must apply on-line through the county’s employment application portal at: <http://www.co.black-hawk.ia.us/316/Job-Openings> and will be required to pass a pre-employment aptitude test, polygraph,

background check, occupational health screening, drug test, and oral interview.

Anyone interested in learning more about this position and potential employment opportunity with the Black Hawk County Sheriff’s Office is encouraged to review further information at: <http://www.bhcsso.org> under the “Employment” tab.

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