****

**CITY OF SWEET SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**324 S. Miller St. Sweet Springs, Missouri 65351**

**660-335-6823 Office 660-335-4409 Fax**

**Chief Shane Gooden**

Position: Full-Time School Police Officer

Open Date: 04/14/2025 until filled

**General Summary:**  
The School Police Officer (SPO) is primarily responsible, within the school system, for building positive relationships between students and faculty while enforcing the laws and promoting a safe and drug-free environment in accordance with district policies and procedures. The School Police Officer will be required to perform the functions of a law enforcement officer and law-related counselor (SPOs are not expected to engage in the responsibilities of a certified counselor) while becoming an integral member of the school community. The SPO must work closely with parents, students, and members of the community.

**Essential Functions:**

* Fosters, develops and maintains open lines of communication between students and faculty to develop positive relationships.
* Attempts to prevent juvenile delinquency through close contact with students and school personnel.
* Enforces Federal, State, and Local crime laws and ordinances and assists school officials with the enforcement of Board of Education policies and Administrative Regulations regarding student conduct.
* Performs typical law enforcement duties such as handling assaults, theft, burglary, bomb threats, weapons, alcohol, and drug incidents.
* Attends, when possible, school activities (i.e., school clubs, athletic events, field trips, dances) and provides a visible and positive image and ensures the peaceful operation of such activities.
* Reaffirms role as law enforcement officer by wearing the uniform, unless doing so would be inappropriate for scheduled school activities. (The uniform will also be worn at school activities where it will enhance the image of the officers and their ability to perform their duties.)
* Works to protect the school environment and maintains an atmosphere where teachers and students feel safe to learn.
* Investigates criminal activity committed on or adjacent to school property.
* Assists other law enforcement officers with outside investigations concerning students attending the school(s) to which the SPO is assigned.
* Provides security for special school events or functions as determined by the principal or Chief of Police
* Helps provide traffic control during the arrival and/or departure of students.
* The School Police Officer is not to be involved in the enforcement of disciplinary infractions that do not constitute violations of the law.
* Attends meetings of parent and faculty groups to solicit their support and understanding of the School Police Services program and to promote awareness of law enforcement functions as needed.
* Confers with the principal/school officials to develop plans and strategies to prevent and/or minimize dangerous situations on or near the campus or involving students at school-related activities.
* Assists in the development, revision, and implementation of district and building crisis response plans.
* Develops and offers appropriate training for staff, students, and parents on legal, drug, safety, or related issues.
* Other duties/projects as assigned by the Chief of Police or Superintendent.

**Qualifications:**

* Education level – High school graduate, Law Enforcement Academy graduate
* Certification or Licensure – Full-time certified police officer.
* Experience desired – One year of experience is preferred.
* Other requirements – Thorough working knowledge of the juvenile laws of the state of Missouri; skilled in investigative and interview techniques. Familiarity and understanding of the justice system. Criminal justice background preferred. Understand and support the District’s Comprehensive School Improvement Plan. Must successfully pass a background check and drug test that are satisfactory to the Board of Education.
* Physical Requirements/Environmental Conditions – Requires prolonged sitting and standing; requires stooping, bending, reaching, and lifting; requires physical exertion to manually move, lift, carry, pull, or push heavy objects or materials; must work in stressful and hectic environments; requires the ability to handle multiple tasks with frequent interruptions; may require some travel; requires physical and emotional endurance; must be able to work long and irregular hours; and requires regular and consistent attendance and physical presence at the job.

Questions contact Chief Gooden at 660-335-6823 or you can submit your resume to Chief Shane Gooden at [sspdchiefgooden@gmail.com](mailto:sspdchiefgooden@gmail.com) or by mail at 324 S Miller Sweet Springs, MO 65351