



# Hall County Sheriff's Office School Resource Officer Program

FY 2024 - 2023/2024 Academic Year Budget

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## **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Hall County Sheriff's Office (hereinafter referred to as "Sheriff's Office"), the Hall County Board of Commissioners (hereinafter referred to as "Commission"), and the Hall County School System (hereinafter referred to as "School System") is to institute and establish and maintain a School Resource Officer Program. This program places a Deputy Sheriff in each of the Middle and High Schools and 2 roving between Elementary Schools within the School System for the purpose of providing Law Enforcement Services for the School System.
2. **BACKGROUND:** Beginning with the 1999 – 2000 academic year the Sheriff's Office, the Commission, and the School System instituted and established a School Resource Officer Program, which placed a Deputy Sheriff in each of the middle and high schools within the School System for the purpose of providing Law Enforcement Services for the School System. During the 2018 - 2019 academic year a K9 Officer was added. During the 2022 – 2023 academic year and additional School Resource Officer was added at the Lanier Career Academy. The School Resource Officer Program has received overwhelming acceptance and support from the participating entities and the community in general. The School Resource Officer Program has been extremely successful in creating a safe environment in the School System as well as providing the students with outstanding role models. It is the desire of the Sheriff's Office, the Commission, and the School System to fund and continue the School Resource Officer Program and to have an understanding of the financial responsibility of each entity as to those expenditures of the School Resource Officer Program not covered by grant monies.
3. **BY AND THROUGH AGREEMENT HEREIN**, the Sheriff's Office, the Commission, and the School System hereby agree to the following:
4. **SERVICES PROVIDED:** The Sheriff's Office will provide Law Enforcement Services to the School System by providing a School Resource Officer at each of

the School Systems Middle Schools and High Schools, this year adding two additional Officers to roam between Elementary Schools for a total of 16 School Resource Officers in the program. In addition to the School Resource Officers the Sheriff's Office will provide a part-time crossing guard at mutually agreed upon schools throughout the county at the same 70/30 split. The School System is purchasing two drug K9's to add to the program beginning in FY2024 making a total of 3 K9's in the program. The School System is responsible for all K9 expenses. The Sheriff's Office and School System together will continue to split the handler/deputy salaries and benefits 70/30, the same as all other officers in the program.

5. **FUNDING:** For **FY2024**, which encompasses the **2023 – 2024** academic years, the total budget for the School Resource Officer Program will be projected at **\$2,282,155**. This will fund sixteen full time School Resource Officer's salaries, overtime, operating supplies, fuel, training costs, crossing guards. These funds shall be provided by the Commission and the School System based on the previously agreed upon 70% (School System) 30% (Commission) split. Thus, the School System will be responsible for **\$1,597,509** and the Commission will be responsible for **\$684,646**. There is no Grant Funding for **FY2024**. If the total expenditures were to go over or are under the above projected budget for whatever reason, this account will be reconciled at year end at the agreed upon 70/30 split. Monthly review of actual expenditures can be presented as necessary.
6. **RECORDS:** All records pertaining to the School Resource Officer Program will be collected and maintained by the Sheriff's Office. These records shall include employee personnel files, monthly reports, and statistical data. All criminal reports will be maintained by the Sheriff's Office Records Division and will be subject to the Georgia Open Records Laws.
7. **DURATION, MODIFICATION, AND TERMINATION:** The Sheriff's Office, the Commission, and the School System desire to continue the School Resource Officer Program for **FY2024**, the **2023 – 2024** academic year. The Program may not be terminated during the fiscal year, however the program may be terminated at the end of a fiscal year by either party. The party desiring to terminate the program shall notify the other parties of their intentions in writing 60 days prior to terminating the program and only at the conclusion of the fiscal year.
8. **AUTHORITY:** All Sheriff's Office personnel assigned to the School Resource Officer Program shall remain under the chain of command and control of the Sheriff's Office at all times.

9. **FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT:** The School System will provide office space for each School Resource Officer at the respective school. All equipment and vehicles shall remain the property of the Sheriff's Office and shall be used and maintained in accordance with Sheriff's Office policy.
10. **EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS:** Sheriff's Office employees assigned to the School Resource Officer Program remain employees of the Sheriff's Office and shall not be penalized in any way for participating in the School Resource Officer Program. This includes all employment rights, promotional opportunities, training opportunities, or fringe benefits.
11. **REVIEW AND REVISION:** The School Resource Officer program shall be reviewed annually by all parties. Any modifications to this agreement must be in writing and agreed upon by all parties. This Memorandum of Agreement shall remain in effect for the entire fiscal year of **2024**.
12. **FORCE AND EFFECT:** This MOA, which consist of 13 sections on 3 pages, will enter into effect upon the signature of all parties and will remain in effect until **June 30, 2024**.
13. **THEREFORE,** in affirming this Memorandum of Agreement, the entities hereto, by and through their respective representatives, have executed this document this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, **2023**.

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Gerald Couch, Sheriff

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Will Schofield, Superintendent of Schools

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Richard Higgins, Commission Chairman

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Attest: Jennifer Rivera, County Clerk