

PAWNEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SHERIFF DARRIN VARNELL

Community Engagement	Related Policies: Recruitment and Hiring

This policy is for internal use only and does not enlarge an employee's civil liability in any way. The policy should not be construed as creating a higher duty of care, in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party civil claims against employees. A violation of this policy, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this agency for non-judicial administrative action in accordance with the laws governing employee discipline.

Applicable Statutes:

CALEA Standard:

I. Purpose

It is the shared responsibility of law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve to work together to build relationships based upon trust and mutual respect. A strong relationship between law enforcement agencies and the community will improve public safety and allow communities to thrive and prosper.

The intent of this policy is to establish department accountability for the community involvement function in writing.

II. Policy

The Pawnee County Sheriff's Office has adopted a community engagement strategy with a primary focus on improving Police – Community relations.

III. Procedure

- A. The Pawnee County Sheriff's Office shall utilize proven strategies and develop new strategies that are focused on community engagement. Strategies may address any or all of the following or other related areas:
 - **1.** youth programs,
 - 2. citizens police academy
 - **3.** educating the community on police policy and procedures,
 - 4. understanding the community this department serves,
 - 5. sharing, receiving and providing information to the public,
 - 6. jointly identifying areas of concern,

- 7. communicating, when appropriate, significant changes in department operations
- 8. attending community meetings and gatherings
- 9. enhancing transparency of police and citizen encounters
- **B.** The Sheriff shall designate an employee of the department, sworn or civilian, to develop and document the strategies and programs used by the department to engage the community. An annual report will be prepared and approved by the Chief of Police/Sheriff.