

RESERVE DEPUTY SHERIFF FACT SHEET

- 1. Who are we?** Our official name is the Ravalli County Sheriff's Reserve Deputy Association, more commonly called the Reserves. We are members of this community, who volunteer our spare time to assist the Ravalli County Sheriff's Office in the efforts of maintaining our quality of life in the Bitterroot Valley.
- 2. How do I become a Reserve Deputy Sheriff?** Applications are accepted when there are openings in the organization. Applications are reviewed by the Reserve Board of Directors and applicants meeting all standards are invited to take a written test, physical fitness test, and oral interview. Applicants must pass a criminal history and thorough background check. Successful candidates will receive a recommendation to the Sheriff. Upon approval of the Sheriff, applicants are appointed as a trainee.
- 3. What kind of training will I receive?** State law requires that Reserves complete at least 88 hours of training in subjects such as firearms, patrol procedures, criminal law, laws of arrest, defensive tactics, first aid, communications, report writing, and other related subjects. Typically, Ravalli County's Reserves receive over 200 hours of initial training in the first six months. After appointment, training is conducted on a monthly basis at Reserve meetings and functions.
- 4. How many hours must I participate each month?** Initial training will require Reserves to meet every Saturday from January through May. After that, Reserves are required to meet a minimum of 10 hours each month.
- 5. What will it cost me?** Reserve Deputies purchase their own uniforms and weapons. Some uniforms and equipment are issued and available for loan. Persons wishing to be a Reserve should anticipate costs of approximately \$2,000 during the first year.
- 6. Will I be paid for being a Reserve Deputy Sheriff?** The Reserve organization is first and foremost a volunteer organization. There are, however, multiple opportunities for a Reserve to get paid duty. Paid duty is only available after the applicant has completed the initial basic training.
- 7. What benefits do I get from being a Reserve Deputy?** Participation in the Reserve organization allows a person to get involved in their community. Reserves work with a variety of other organizations and emergency personnel. Each Reserve gets a first hand look into law enforcement situations. Ravalli County Reserves get some of the best training available. Reserves get a continuing education with monthly training meetings and actual patrol experience. This may be the way to give back to a community or it could be a doorway into a full time law enforcement career.
- 8. For further information or questions contact:**
Reserve Coordinator, SGT. Ike Jessop 531-7014 or
Reserve Captain Ray Merwin