



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Sheriff's Office



Date: February 25, 2015
Board Meeting Date: April 14, 2015
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: Greg Munks, Sheriff
Subject: Classification of Level One Reserve Deputy Sheriffs

RECOMMENDATION:

Adoption of an ordinance authorizing qualified Level One Reserve Deputy Sheriffs to have the powers, authority, rights, and duties of a peace officer as provided by the Penal Code Section 830.6 (a)(2), previously introduced on March 31, 2015, and waive the reading of the ordinance in its entirety.

BACKGROUND:

As of January 7, 2015, according to the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.), California law enforcement agencies currently employ over 5,000 reserve peace officers/deputy sheriffs. Since reserve peace officers/deputy sheriffs have the same powers of arrest as regular officers/deputies, they are required by law to meet the same hiring, background, medical and psychological standards as regular officers/deputies. Reserve peace officers/deputy sheriffs are assigned to duties based on the level of P.O.S.T. certified training which they have received and that level of training determines which category of reserve peace officer/deputy sheriff they are classified as, Level Three, Level Two or Level One (highest level of training). Section 830.6(a)(2) of the penal code also provides that an agency may "designate" a Level I reserve peace officer/deputy sheriff to have full peace officer powers as defined by existing law in penal code section 830.1. This designation may only occur if a local ordinance has authorized this authority.

DISCUSSION:

The Sheriff's Office has evaluated each of the existing Level One Reserve Deputy Sheriffs and determined that some possess the necessary qualifications to be a "Designated Level One Reserve Deputy Sheriff." The recommended ordinance is required by law to make these appointments.

All appointments to Designated Level One Reserve Deputy status will be at the discretion of the Sheriff. The Sheriff will also have discretion to revoke or suspend the Designated Level One classification.

In 2014, San Mateo County Sheriff's Office volunteers, including Reserve Deputy Sheriffs, contributed 66,321 hours of service to the Sheriff's Office and the community. The estimated savings associated with the volunteer hours is valued at \$3,382,371.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

The change in classification of qualified Reserve Deputy Sheriffs contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Collaborative Community by ensuring that public safety continues to be a priority in the County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no Net County Cost associated with this ordinance.