

DeLeon City Council Votes to Deactivate Police Department; Contracts Law Enforcement Services with County

Comanche County, TX – September 10, 2024 – The DeLeon City Council voted on Monday, September 9th, to deactivate the DeLeon Police Department and enter into a contract with the County of Comanche for law enforcement services. This decision follows several years of challenges related to staffing and budget constraints.

In May 2024, the City of DeLeon initiated a temporary contract with the Comanche County Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement coverage during times when the DeLeon Police Department was not on duty. This arrangement was part of a broader effort to address staffing shortages and recruit additional personnel. The Sheriff's Office has been handling a portion of calls and duties for over a year prior to this temporary agreement, working closely with both the City Police Department and City Administration to improve public safety.

Sheriff Chris Pounds has played a crucial role in negotiating a fair and equitable contract that balances the needs of the County and the City while ensuring continued safety and protection for all citizens. The new arrangement will provide law enforcement services to DeLeon, with service hours based on call volume and events rather than specific times or days.

Sheriff Pounds is committed to delivering quality service and is requesting the community's understanding and patience during this transition period. His team is focused on enhancing policing strategies and addressing public safety concerns by working closely with local leaders, schools, and residents.

To support the community during this transition, Sheriff Pounds plans to establish dedicated office hours at the previous police station location. These hours will be outside the contracted service times and will offer residents the opportunity to check case statuses, register as sex offenders, and request records.

For emergency situations, please continue to call 9-1-1. For administrative and non-emergency inquiries, residents can use the following numbers:

- **Non-Emergency:** 254-893-3510 or 325-356-7533
- **Direct Dispatch Lines:** 325-356-2296 or 325-356-5185

Sheriff Pounds and his team are dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being throughout Comanche County and committed to providing efficient and effective law enforcement services during this transition.

End of Press Release