



Fort Dodge Police Reserve Webster County Sheriff Reserve

Law Enforcement Center | 702 1st Avenue South | Fort Dodge, IA 50501
Fort Dodge Police Department: 515-573-1424 | Webster Co. Sheriff's Office: 515-573-1410

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the joint Fort Dodge Police/Webster County Sheriff Reserve Unit. Both departments are extremely proud to be involved with one of the only dual agency Reserve Peace Officer units in the State of Iowa. Being a volunteer Reserve Officer is truly a one of a kind opportunity to explore the world of law enforcement and to give back to your community. Our unit prides itself on integrity, dedication, and professionalism. Being a member of the volunteer Reserve Unit requires a substantial commitment of your time for which both departments are extremely grateful. The following is a general overview of the basic minimum qualification, requirements and expectations for the members of our unit.

Applicants must meet the following minimum requirements to be considered for selection:

- Must be minimum of 21 years of age.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen and resident of the State of Iowa
- Must be a resident of Webster County or a county immediately bordering Webster County.
- Must have a high school diploma or equivalent GED certificate.
- Must have a valid Iowa driver's license with good driving record.
- Must not be addicted to drugs or alcohol.
- Must not have any felony convictions or crimes of moral turpitude.
- Must be of good moral character (as determined by a fingerprint, background and criminal history check of local, state, and national databases; and interview of people who know you.)
- Must be able to pass minimum physical agility, vision, and hearing standards for Reserve Peace Officers as prescribed by the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. Physical agility test includes 1.5 mile run, Push-ups, Sit-ups and Sit and reach. The standard is set by ILEA and depends on age and sex.
- Must obtain satisfactory interpretation on MMPI psychological assessment.
- Must not be opposed to the use of force when necessary in performance of official duties.

If you are selected to become a member of the volunteer Reserve Unit, you will be required to complete mandatory training coursed as outlined by the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. Upon completion of all required training, you will become an Iowa Certified Reserve Peace Officer. Members are expected to successfully complete all minimum training requirements within 12 months of appointment as a Reserve Peace Officer. The ILEA reserve training modules cover a wide range of general law enforcement topics including, but not limited to: basic Iowa law, mandatory reporting, HazMat, traffic control, precision driving, court testimony, report writing and much more. In addition to the ILEA reserve module training, members are trained in basic First Aid and CPR certification, Taser certificates, OC/Chemical Agent certification, ASP expandable baton certification, basic ILEA firearms certification 40 hour class and more. You will also get to see the operations of the Webster Co. Jail and 911 Communications Center.

Your first year will be very busy and consist of approximately 200 hours of training. While this may seem like an enormous amount of time, we make every effort to hold training sessions on evenings and weekends to accommodate typical work schedules when feasible. In order to keep up on the every-changed world of law enforcement policies, tactics and best practices, Reserve unit meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. Meetings typically last about two hours and include various training topics. Members are expected to attend a minimum of 8 (eight) of the monthly meetings each year.

The FDPD/WCSO Reserve Unit is a self-funded organization, meaning there is no money budgeted by either the City or County to fund operations and equipment. The Reserve Unit members provide security at different events throughout the County, crowd control, traffic management and other law enforcement functions at approximately 50+ community events and activities throughout the area in order to pay for various uniforms and equipment. Members are expected to help at a minimum of 8 (eight) community activities per year. Many of these activities occur on evenings, weekends and holidays, though activities could come up at any time. The Reserve Unit provides members with basic items such as department uniform shirts, pants, jackets and traffic safety equipment. The duty belt, firearm and associated gear must be purchased by the individual member. The duty belt and equipment can cost upwards of \$500.00 (excluding firearm) depending on what and where you purchase it.

Members are also expected to contribute a minimum of 30 volunteer hours per calendar quarter. These hours can consist of working scheduled community events, ride-along/patrol time with both departments, or approved training activities. Ride time consists of being assigned to a two-person patrol car with a regular full-time Fort Dodge Police Officer or Webster County Sheriff's Deputy. The ride time is very important resource to get actual on-the-job training in the daily functions of real life, modern day police work. It is very enlightening to see how a case goes from the initial call all the way through investigation, arrest and eventually successful prosecution.

In reading this I'm sure it seems like we expect quite a lot from a volunteer, and you're right, we do! Being a Reserve Peace Officer is an enormous responsibility and we would be doing a disservice to not only the community, but to you as an individual, by putting unqualified people out on the street in positions of authority and responsibility without the proper knowledge, training and equipment. If you believe you meet the minimum qualifications, are able to commit to the minimum requirements and expectations, and have the desire to be a part of one of the finest law enforcement Reserve Units in Iowa, please contact us today!

Sincerely,

Colton Wiles
Reserve Unit Commander
Email: cwiles@fortdodgeiowa.org

Deputy Amy Stringer
Webster County Sheriff's Office

Ph: 515-573-1410
Email: astringer@webstercountyia.org

Brittni Nelson
Reserve Unit Treasurer/Secretary
Email: bnelson@fortdodgeiowa.org

Lieutenant Dennis P. Mernka
Fort Dodge Police Department

Ph: 515-573-1424
Email: dmernka@fortdodgeiowa.org



Webster County Sheriff Reserve / Fort Dodge Police Reserve

Law Enforcement Center - 702 1st Avenue South - Fort Dodge, IA 50501



VOLUNTEER RESERVE PEACE OFFICER APPLICATION

Title of Specific Position for Which You Are Applying: RESERVE OFFICER - WEBSTER COUNTY S.O. / FORT DODGE P.D.		Date of Application:	Date Available to Start:
Last Name:	First Name:	Middle Name:	
Mailing Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Email Address:	Are you 21 years of age or over? If No, Date of Birth:	Yes	No
County of Residence:	City & State of Birth:	Home Phone:	
		Cellular Phone:	

EDUCATION

Did you graduate from high school or receive a GED?

No	Yes	School Attended:	# of Years:
		Name and Location of College, University, Technical Schools	Did you Graduate? Certificate or Degree Course of Study
			Yes No
			Yes No
			Yes No
			Yes No

EMPLOYMENT

(List employment history for the past 7 years, starting with your current or most recent employer. Attach additional sheets of paper if necessary.)

Employing Firm	From	Month	Year	To	Month	Year
Address	Reason for Leaving					
Phone Number	Supervisor					
Your Job Title	Supervisor's Job Title					
May we contact this employer?						
Yes No If No, explain.						
Principal Responsibilities						

Employing Firm	From	Month	Year	To	Month	Year
Address	Reason for Leaving					
Phone Number	Supervisor					
Your Job Title	Supervisor's Job Title					
May we contact this employer?						
Yes No If No, explain.						
Principal Responsibilities						

Employing Firm	From	Month	Year	To	Month	Year
Address	Reason for Leaving					
Phone Number	Supervisor					
Your Job Title	Supervisor's Job Title					
May we contact this employer?						
Yes No If No, explain.						
Principal Responsibilities						

QUESTIONNAIRE

Are you willing to work on short notice? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Do you understand and accept that becoming a Reserve Peace Officer for Webster County, IA / City of Fort Dodge, IA is a volunteer, non-paid position ? Yes No	Many of the activities you will be expected to work occur on nights, weekends, and holidays. Is this acceptable to you? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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Do you know any of the current Reserve Officers or other area Law Enforcement Officers? Yes No
 If Yes, please list the Officers that you know:

RELEVANT VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Kind of Volunteer Activity (Do not specify organization.)	Major Responsibilities	Average # Hours/Month	Length of Service (Dates)

Describe any additional experience or training that qualifies you for this position. Attach additional sheets of paper if necessary.

REFERENCES

(Name at least three people, excluding relatives, who can be contacted regarding your qualifications, work habits and character.)

Name	Present Address	Phone	Position and relation to your work

MILITARY

Did you serve in the military service of the United States of America and separate under honorable conditions from any branch of the armed forces of the U.S. after having served on active duty for 181 consecutive days or by reason of disability incurred while serving on active duty? Yes No

FELONY CONVICTIONS

Have you served a sentence in jail or prison or been convicted of a felony for which a jail sentence could have been imposed? Yes No If "Yes," attach a separate sheet with explanation. A felony conviction will automatically bar you from employment as a Reserve Peace Officer. {IA Administrative Code 501-10.100(5)}

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE / MORAL TURPITUDE

Have you ever been convicted of crime involving moral turpitude? Yes No If "Yes," attach a separate sheet with explanation.
 A conviction of a serious crime involving moral turpitude may bar you from employment as a Reserve Peace Officer. {IA Administrative Code 501-10.100(5)}

"Moral turpitude" is defined as an act of baseness, vileness, or depravity in the private and social duties which a person owes to another person, or to society in general, contrary to the accepted and customary rule of right and duty between person and person. Moral turpitude is conduct that is contrary to justice, honesty or good morals. The following nonexclusive list of acts has been held by the courts to involve moral turpitude: income tax evasion, perjury, insubordination, theft, indecent exposure, sex crimes, conspiracy to commit a crime, defrauding the government, and illegal drug offenses. The offenses of assault, domestic abuse, or other offenses of domestic violence, stalking, and any offense in which a weapon was used in the commission are crimes involving moral turpitude.

In connection with this application for volunteer Reserve Peace Officer status, I authorize Webster County, IA / City of Fort Dodge, IA and any agent acting on their behalf to conduct an inquiry into any job-related information contained in this application, including, but not limited to, my records maintained by an educational institution relating to academic performance such as transcripts. Moreover, I hereby release the employer and any agent acting on it's behalf from any and all liability of whatsoever nature by reason of requesting such information from any person.

Yes No (We may be unable to hire you without this information.)

I declare that any statement in this application or information provided is true and complete and hereby acknowledge that I have read and understand the information above. I further understand that providing false information on this application will disqualify my application for this position and/or be grounds for immediate termination if discovered after I have been appointed.

Date _____ Signature (Do not print) _____



FORT DODGE POLICE DEPARTMENT
 702 1st Avenue South
 Fort Dodge, IA 50501
 (515) 573-1426



WEBSTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
 702 1st Avenue South
 Fort Dodge, IA 50501
 (515) 573-1410

AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFORMATION

Name (Please Print Clearly): _____

Address: _____

SSN: _____

DOB: _____

I authorize the Webster County Sheriff's Office (Webster County, IA) and/or Fort Dodge Police Department (City of Fort Dodge, IA) and their respective agents to check into my background and references and to investigate any information provided in my application for appointment as a Reserve Peace Officer.

I respectfully request and authorize you to furnish the Webster County Sheriff's Office (Webster County, IA) and/or Fort Dodge Police Department (City of Fort Dodge, IA) with any and all information that you may have concerning my employment and education record and my credit status. Your cooperation in this reply will be used to assist the Webster County Sheriff's Office and/or Fort Dodge Police Department in determining my qualifications and fitness for the position I am seeking.

I hereby agree to hold harmless any person or organization from any liability (suit, claim or other action) that may result from supplying the information requested.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____