



2021-01

**THE NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION ACKNOWLEDGES THE ELECTED  
OFFICE OF SHERIFF AS THE CHIEF LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICE  
THROUGHOUT OUR NATION**

**WHEREAS**, the elected Office of Sheriff is recognized as the chief law enforcement office in many of our nation's counties, parishes, cities, etc., and;

**WHEREAS**, the elected Sheriff is directly answerable to the people of his or her local jurisdiction who have the right to vote for an elected Office of Sheriff, and;

**WHEREAS**, all of America's Sheriffs take an Oath of Office to enforce the laws of their state pursuant to the United States Constitution and their applicable State Constitutions, and;

**WHEREAS**, the National Sheriffs' Association represents the public safety and law enforcement interests of over 3,000 elected Sheriffs of our Nation who strongly support the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights and their own State Constitutions, and;

**WHEREAS**, America's Sheriffs strongly support our citizens protected rights to bear arms under the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution; nevertheless, the individual Offices/Departments of Sheriff do not possess the judicial nor legal authority under any State Constitution nor under the U.S. Constitution to interpret the constitutionality of any State or Federal law/statute, and;

**WHEREAS**, the National Sheriffs' Association promotes the jurisdiction of the Office/ Department of Sheriff by supporting our nation's local Sheriffs as constitutional or statutory law enforcement officers in discharging and carrying out their law enforcement and Homeland Security duties, the administration of local jails and detention centers, and administrative responsibilities as provided under State statutes, individual State Constitutions and the United States Constitution, and;

**WHEREAS**, as promulgated under the Code of Ethics of the Office of Sheriff of the National Sheriffs' Association, each individual constitutionally/statutorily elected Sheriff pledges to equally protect all individuals and to enforce and to administer their sworn duties in accordance with applicable State Constitutions and under the United States Constitution;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Sheriffs' Association recognizes that our nation's over 3,000 Offices/Departments of Sheriff under our representative form of government are subject to the jurisdiction and authority imposed by local, State, and Federal governments, and by the separation of powers doctrine into executive, judicial and legislative branches of government.