

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING)
BENEFITS FOR DEPUTY SHERIFF) RESOLUTION NO. R-22-0077
CAPTAINS IN THE UNCLASSIFIED)
SERVICE)

WHEREAS, pursuant to NEB. REV. STAT. §23-2519, the county service is divided into the classified and unclassified service; and

WHEREAS, the Lancaster County Board (County Board) has previously adopted Personnel Rules, including employee benefits, that are applicable to classified service employees who are not covered by a labor agreement; and

WHEREAS, Lancaster County Deputy Sheriff Captains are unclassified employees who are not covered by a labor agreement; and

WHEREAS, Lancaster County Deputy Sheriff Captains are classified under the sheriff's office merit system, pursuant to the provisions found at NEB. REV. STAT. §23-1721 et seq., and the rules and regulations of the Lancaster County Sheriff Merit Commission; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has adopted a Resolution defining benefits applicable to certain unclassified employees who are not covered by a labor agreement, and excluding Lancaster County Deputy Sheriff Captains; and

WHEREAS, the County Board previously adopted a Resolution (R-15-0029) providing Lancaster County Deputy Sheriff Captains similar benefits to those benefits provided to all other Lancaster County Deputy Sheriffs classified under the sheriff's office merit system, pursuant to the provisions found at NEB. REV. STAT. §23-1721 et seq., and the rules and regulations of the Lancaster County Sheriff Merit Commission; and

WHEREAS, the County Board wishes to amend certain provisions in said Resolution and adopt a new Resolution providing benefits for Deputy Sheriff Captains in the unclassified service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Lancaster County, as follows:

1. Employees Defined. Unless otherwise stated herein, the benefits described in this Resolution apply to full-time Lancaster County Deputy Sheriff Captains not covered by a labor agreement. Lancaster County Deputy Sheriff Captains covered by this Resolution are classified under the sheriff's office merit system, pursuant to the provisions found at NEB. REV. STAT. §23- 1721 et seq., and the rules and regulations of the Lancaster County Sheriff Merit Commission. All rights afforded to them by such classification remain in full force and effect.

2. Health, Dental, Vision, Flex and Life Insurance. Employees shall be eligible for participation in the County Health, Dental, Flex, and Vision Plans on the first day of the month after the date of hire or promotion effective January 1, 2023. The employee is required to make contributions to the premiums as applicable.

A. Health insurance. The County shall maintain a group health insurance policy. The County shall have the sole discretion to contract with one or more carriers on any terms of the coverage.

1. The County shall contribute Ninety-Five Percent (95%) of the monthly cost of single coverage.

2. The County shall contribute Eighty-Five Percent (85%) of the monthly cost employee plus child(ren) and employee plus spouse coverage.

3. The County shall contribute Eighty-Five Percent (85%) of the monthly cost of family coverage.

B. Health insurance for retirees. Employees, upon retirement, may participate in the Group Health Insurance Program for active County employees, provided that each retiree so desiring will execute the required forms in a timely fashion, and further provided that each retiree will be required to pay the full monthly premium at the then current rates subject to any rate increases which may occur from time to time. Such payment shall be made to the administrator of the retiree health plan.

C. Life insurance. On the first day of the month after employment, employees are automatically enrolled in the County Life Insurance Plan. The Life Insurance Plan includes a group term life insurance coverage for the employee in the amount of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000), at no cost to the employee. The County will pay the full premium on the Sixty Thousand Dollar (\$60,000) group term life insurance coverage for the employee. Additional coverage and dependent coverage may be purchased, and the employee will pay one hundred percent (100%) of the monthly premium.

D. Dental insurance. The County will pay one hundred percent (100%) of the monthly premium for Dental Insurance for single coverage. The County will pay eighty percent (80%) of the monthly premium for Dental Insurance. The employee will pay the remaining twenty percent (20%) of the premium. This applies to employee plus child(ren), employee plus spouse and family coverages.

E. Health care for surviving families. In the event that an employee is killed in the line of duty, the employee's legal dependents may continue specific insurance coverage is at the County subsidized employee cost, for the health or dental plan in which the employee was enrolled, provided those legal dependents were enrolled in coverage prior to the employee's death for a period of up to thirty-six (36) months as provided by COBRA.

3. Retirement. An employee is automatically enrolled in the County Retirement Plan (Plan) when the employee has obtained the age of twenty-five (25) and has completed one year of service with the County. An employee may voluntarily elect to participate in the Plan sooner by making a written request to the County Board pursuant to the provisions and requirements set forth in the Plan. Employees shall make the same contribution as outlined in the state statutes for employees of the County and contributions will be matched using the same principles as other County employees.

4. Longevity Pay. In addition to an employee's base salary, each Lancaster County Deputy Sheriff Captain shall annually receive longevity pay based upon the total length of continuous service with the County. Such pay shall be effective beginning with the first full pay period following completion of the specified years of service. Payment shall be made on a prorated basis on each regular pay day. The longevity schedule shall be as follows:

<u>Completed Years of Service</u>	<u>Annual Pay</u>
6 years (Beginning 7th Year)	\$400.00
10 years (Beginning 11th Year)	\$550.00
15 years (Beginning 16th Year)	\$700.00
20 years (Beginning 21st Year)	\$850.00

5. Deferred Compensation. An employee may participate in the County Deferred Compensation Plan, without a six-month waiting period, under the rules and requirements established by the County Deferred Compensation Plan.

6. Post Employment Health Plan. On the first day of the month after employment, employees are automatically enrolled in the County-funded Post Employment Health Plan (PEHP) at no cost to the employee. The purpose of the PEHP is to set aside an amount of money in a trust account for the express purpose of paying for qualified medical expenses in the future. The qualification for this program is listed under the Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(9). All contributions and expenditures will be as outlined in the Trust Agreement and Participation Agreement and may change from time to time to comply with changes in the Trust Agreement or Tax Code requirements. The amount of dollars paid into the employee's PEHP account by the County on behalf of the employee shall be \$25.00 per pay period. In addition, upon retirement or death a portion of the employee's sick leave balance shall be added (paid) into the employee's premium PEHP account. Accordingly, 100% of the sick leave payout amount upon retirement, death, or death in the line of duty will be deposited in the employee's premium account in the PEHP.

7. Long Term Disability (LTD). After six months of employment with the County, employees are automatically covered by the County's Long Term Disability Plan at no cost to the employee. The employee is entitled to benefits in accordance with and only to the extent of the plan's benefits.

8. Sick Leave. Sick leave shall be earned at the rate of one hundred and four (104) hours per year and will be factored as four (4) hours per pay period. There is no waiting period before earned sick leave may be used. Sick leave with pay must be earned before it can be taken and

advancing sick leave is prohibited. Employees may utilize their allowance of sick leave when unable to perform their work duties by reason of personal illness, job related fatigue, noncompensable bodily injury, pregnancy, disease, or exposure to a contagious disease under circumstances in which the health of other employees or the public would be endangered by attendance on duty. Sick leave with pay may be taken to keep medical or dental appointments. It may also be granted for illness in the household of the employee or his immediate family.

At the employee's discretion, he/she may supplement their Workers' Compensation payment with sick leave to bring the total sum of the Workers' Compensation payment and sick leave to a figure equivalent to a full paycheck.

Upon the death an employee not in the line of duty, his/her estate shall receive a payout of fifty percent (50%) of the employee's total accumulated sick leave balance.

Upon retirement, as defined in the County Retirement Plan, or death in the line of duty, an employee or his/her estate shall receive a payout of one hundred percent (100%) of the employee's total accumulated sick leave balance.

One hundred percent (100%) of the sick leave payout amount upon retirement, death, or death in the line of duty will be deposited into the employee's premium PEHP account.

9. Vacation. Employee's shall earn vacation leave as follows:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Hours Accumulated</u>
Less than 5 years	80 hours per year
After 5 years	120 hours per year
After 10 years	148 hours per year
After 15 years	168 hours per year
After 20 years	198 hours per year

There is no waiting period before earned vacation leave may be used. An employee may accumulate a maximum of two hundred forty (240) hours of vacation at any one time. Any leave

time in addition to the two hundred forty (240) hours will be forfeited each pay period. Upon separation from employment with the County, unused accumulated vacation leave shall be paid to the employee, provided that the employee provides the Department Head with no less than ten (10) working days notice in writing of the resignation.

Vacation leave shall be requested and approved in advance of its use.

Absence on account of sickness, injury, or disability, in excess of that hereinafter authorized for such purpose, shall be charged against vacation leave allowance at the employee's discretion.

The Department Head shall schedule vacation leaves to accord with operating requirements and, insofar as possible, to coincide with requests of the employees.

Vacation leave shall not accrue during any period of absence without pay or without leave.

10. Holidays. The following are County authorized holidays:

New Years Day	Fourth of July
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Labor Day
President's Day	Veteran's Day
Memorial Day	Thanksgiving Day
Juneteenth	Christmas Day

In addition to the legal holidays listed above, employees will be entitled to four (4) personal holidays beginning September 1st of each year. Personal holidays may be taken at any time during the twelve-month period in which they are granted provided the days selected by the employee have the prior approval of the Department Head. Personal holidays are noncumulative. Personal holidays are automatically forfeited if they are not used during the twelve-month period in which they are granted. Personal holidays are automatically forfeited when an employee separates his/her employment with the County.

11. Funeral Leave. Employees shall be eligible for funeral leave with pay at the rate of up to thirty-two (32) hours for the immediate family and up to eight (8) hours for secondary family.

12. Injury Leave With Pay. In the case of temporary total disability of an employee received in the line of duty, the employee shall receive the difference between his regular pay and the workers' compensation payment for sixty (60) calendar days from the date the employee becomes temporarily totally disabled. Such injury leave shall not be deducted from vacation or sick leave credits.

13. Leave For Jury Duty. Employees called to serve jury duty shall receive his/her regular pay in addition to the compensation received for ten (10) working days of jury service. For jury service exceeding ten (10) working days during one (1) jury term, employees receive the difference between their regular pay and the compensation received for such jury service.

14. Military Leave. Military leave shall be governed by Neb. Rev. Stat. §§55-160 through 55-166 or as amended by the Legislature.

15. Special Leave.

A. Leave of absence without pay may be granted for employees by the Department Head. The City-County Personnel Administrator must be notified of leaves in excess of thirty (30) calendar days.

B. The Department Head, with approval of the City-County Personnel Administrator, may grant a permanent employee leave of absence without pay for a period not to exceed one (1) year for travel or study which will render the employee of greater value to the County upon his return to duty. Such leave shall be granted only when it will not result in undue prejudice to the interests of the County as an employer beyond any benefits to be realized. No leave without pay shall be granted primarily in the interests of the employee

except in the case of one who has shown by his record of service or by other evidence to be of more than average value to the County, and whose service is desirable to retain even at such sacrifice. Failure on the part of an employee on leave to report promptly at its expiration, without good cause, shall be considered as a resignation.

C. Leave with pay for public health or safety duties of an emergency nature may be authorized by the Department head upon approval of the City-County Personnel Administrator. Such leave will not be deducted from vacation or sick leave.

D. In the event of an emergency as declared by the Board of Commissioners (including but not limited to inclement weather, natural disasters, or manmade disasters) where an employee is unable to report for work, the employee may request and be granted accrued vacation leave, unused holiday time, accrued compensatory time or authorized leave without pay, with approval of the Department Head. Provisions may be made whereby attendance of essential or necessary employees is required.

16. Uniforms and Equipment.

A. The County shall provide all authorized law enforcement equipment for uniformed and nonuniformed employees. Such equipment shall be purchased and owned by the County.

B. Regular replacement articles shall be provided as necessary for wear or damage or loss of uniform and equipment occurring while in the performance of duties.

C. The County shall provide cleaning at no expense to the employee for all authorized uniform articles for uniformed employees.

D. The County shall provide an allowance of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per month to be paid to the Criminal Captain for the purpose of purchasing, maintaining, and cleaning civilian attire. Payment shall be made in September and March of each year.

E. Costs for replacement of required personal equipment that is damaged, broken, or lost in the course and scope of employment will be reimbursed by the County as provided for below.

1. Prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses will be reimbursed up to a replacement value of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars.

2. Watches will be reimbursed up to a replacement value of fifty (\$50.00) dollars

17. Referral Bonus Pilot Program.

A. A deputy sheriff captain employed with the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office who refers another person for employment as a commissioned deputy sheriff with the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office is subject to a referral bonus.

B. A referral bonus of \$1000 will be added to the referring employee's paycheck upon the referred employee's successful completion of six months of employment. Another \$1000 will be added to the referring employee's paycheck upon the referred employee's successful completion of one year of employment. Both the referral and referred employees need to be employed by Lancaster County Sheriff's Office at the completion of the referred employee's six and twelve months of employment in order for the referral employee to receive the referral bonus.

C. Employees who hold a position critical to completing the selection process are ineligible for the referral bonus. Referring employees may not participate in the selection process for any candidate they referred.

- D. The name of the employee who referred the candidate shall be listed on the referred candidate's application.
- E. The referral bonus is considered taxable income.
- F. Any disputes or interpretations of this program will be decided by Human Resources.
- G. This is a pilot program and any applications need to be received between September 1, 2022 and August 31, 2023.

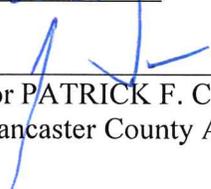
18. This Resolution does not constitute an employment contract.

19. This hereby replaces and rescinds R-22-0021.

DATED this 4 day of ~~September~~^{October}, 2022, at the County-City Building, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska.

BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF LANCASTER
COUNTY, NEBRASKA

APPROVED AS TO FORM
this 4th day of
October, 2022.


for PATRICK F. CONDON
Lancaster County Attorney

