

**HELP SUPPORT YOUR  
COMMUNITY!**

**BECOME A CSU  
VOLUNTEER**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**OR**

**TO APPLY TODAY:**

Contact the Kern County  
Sheriff's Department,  
Volunteer Services Division at  
(661) 391-7659 Or  
Contact your local Sheriff's  
substation

March 2008

**KERN COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

**CITIZEN SERVICE  
UNIT**



**Donny Youngblood**  

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**Sheriff-Coroner**

## WHAT IS THE CITIZEN SERVICE UNIT?

The Citizen Service Unit is a group of men and women of Kern County who are dedicated to assisting the Kern County Sheriff's Department in fulfilling its mission of protecting the residents and visitors of our county.

The Citizen Service Unit is also a powerful crime prevention program, exercising proactive law enforcement principles. All volunteer members have an interest in helping the Kern County Sheriff's Department and their local community.

Currently, the Citizen Service Unit consists of eleven local groups from all areas of the county. There are Citizen Service Unit groups in Bakersfield, Rosamond, Kern Valley, Tehachapi, Frazier Park, Buttonwillow, Wasco, McFarland, and Mojave/Boron. Members usually participate in the group nearest to where they live.

There are currently about 200 members in the Citizen Service Unit and we are always accepting applications for membership.

## REQUIREMENTS

Citizen Service Unit members must meet the following basic requirements:

- ✓ Be at least 21 years of age.
- ✓ Have no recent serious criminal convictions.
- ✓ Have no misdemeanor convictions for the past two years.
- ✓ Obtain approval of Group Coordinator.
- ✓ Successful background investigation.
- ✓ Complete the CSU academy (24 hours).
- ✓ Contribute at least 8 hours each month.
- ✓ Regularly attend group meetings.
- ✓ Maintain an approved CSU uniform.

## ACTIVITIES

Citizen Service Unit members participate in many and varied activities. These activities assist the Sheriff's Department in performing its essential functions, as well as to provide the community with crime prevention and emergency preparedness information.

The following is a brief list of the meaningful activities Citizen Service Unit members are now involved in.

- ◆ Patrol, to report criminal activity
- ◆ Clerical duties
- ◆ Fingerprinting
- ◆ Handling of evidence
- ◆ Transporting law enforcement vehicles
- ◆ Deliver mail
- ◆ Vacation house checks
- ◆ Assist in large area searches
- ◆ Search for lost children and adults
- ◆ Manage the 'Are You Okay' program

Citizen Service Unit members also help the Department perform their duties at the many fairs, festivals, and other events throughout the county and operate the Sheriff's child I.D. program.