

Lower Makefield Township, Bucks County, PA
Job Description

Position Title: Chief of Police
Department: Police Department

Position Summary:

The Chief of Police is the highest-ranking law enforcement officer in Lower Makefield Township. This position is responsible for leading the Police Department, which is accredited through the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (PLEAC), and currently comprises 39 sworn officers with an authorized complement of 41 sworn officers. The Chief of Police will oversee all aspects of law enforcement operations, administration, and community engagement while ensuring public safety and maintaining the department's high standards of professionalism and integrity.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

Leadership and Management

- Provide overall leadership and direction to the department, ensuring effective operations, policy compliance, and adherence to accreditation standards.
- Foster a culture of professionalism, accountability, and ethical conduct.

Community Engagement:

- Develop and implement community-oriented policing strategies to enhance trust and collaboration with residents.
- Serve as the department's primary liaison with community groups, local officials, and other stakeholders.

Administrative Oversight:

- Manage departmental budgets, personnel, training programs, and resources.
- Oversee recruitment, retention, and professional development of officers and staff.

Strategic Planning and Operations:

- Develop and implement short- and long-term strategies to address public safety needs.
- Ensure the department remains responsive to emerging trends, technologies, and best practices in law enforcement.

Interagency Collaboration:

- Establish and maintain partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies to address crime and public safety issues.

Qualifications:

- Extensive experience in law enforcement, with progressive leadership roles, including command-level responsibilities (rank of Sergeant or higher).
- Bachelor's degree in criminal justice, public administration, or a related field required; advanced degree preferred.

- Executive law enforcement training through the FBI National Academy, Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command, or equivalent programs is highly preferred.
- Comprehensive knowledge of modern policing strategies, community-oriented practices, and legal standards.
- Exceptional leadership, communication, and decision-making skills.

Working Conditions:

The Chief of Police will be required to respond to emergencies and public safety incidents as needed, including during nights, weekends, and holidays. This is a highly visible, public-facing role that requires interaction with diverse stakeholders and community groups.

Disclaimer:

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by a person assigned to this position. They are not intended to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required to perform the job.

REPORTS TO: Township Manager

FSLA STATUS: Exempt

DATE: January 2025