

# DORCHESTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SUMMERVILLE  
212 Deming Way, Box #9  
Summerville, SC 29483  
Office (843) 832-0300  
Fax (843) 832-0308



ST. GEORGE  
100 Sears Street  
St. George, SC 29477  
Office (843) 563-0259  
Fax (843) 563-0263

SHERIFF L.C. KNIGHT

## Professional Standards

212 Deming Way  
Summerville, South Carolina 29485  
843.832.0300

[dnevins@dorchestercounty.net](mailto:dnevins@dorchestercounty.net)

---

The agency's Internal Affairs Section is, in essence, one of its quality control centers. Allegations of an agency employee's inappropriate behavior, misconduct, or failure to follow agency rules and policies are almost always investigated by IA. If you believe you have been treated in an inappropriate manner by a member of the Sheriff's Office you are encouraged to contact this office so the issue can be properly investigated.

Sheriff Knight is committed to providing all citizens and visitors of Dorchester County the best possible law enforcement services available. The Sheriff believes good ethics and principles on the part of every deputy and employee of the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office are the very foundation of a professional organization.

As a means of constantly striving to improve police performance and maintain the highest respect from the community of the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office:

- Seeks citizen input for improvement in our services.
- Welcomes citizen commendations of our personnel who admirably perform their duties.
- Encourages questions and/or complaints regarding the agency's performance or the actions of its employees whenever there is a concern.

### **The Dorchester County Sheriff's Office adheres to the following principles:**

- **Integrity** - We adhere to the highest moral and ethical standards. We are honest and sincere in dealing with each other and the community. We have the courage to uphold these principles and are proud that they guide us in all we do.

# DORCHESTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SUMMERVILLE  
212 Deming Way, Box #9  
Summerville, SC 29483  
Office (843) 832-0300  
Fax (843) 832-0308



ST. GEORGE  
100 Sears Street  
St. George, SC 29477  
Office (843) 563-0259  
Fax (843) 563-0263

## SHERIFF L.C. KNIGHT

- **Respect** - We recognize the value of our unique cultural diversity and treat all people with kindness, tolerance, and dignity. We cherish and protect the rights, liberties, and freedom of all as granted by the constitutions and laws of the United States and the State of South Carolina.
- **Fairness** - Objective, impartial decisions and policies are the foundation of our interactions. We are consistent in our treatment of all persons. Our actions are tempered with reason and equity.
- **Courage** - This is accomplished through our willingness to confront society's most dangerous situations. We recognize the ever-present dangers of our assignments and we are able to respond confidently and courageously as a result of our training and commitment to the community we serve.

### Procedure To Commend a Deputy or make a complaint

Sheriff L.C. Knight encourages each of his deputies to treat the public with the utmost respect. However there are times when the public may feel they may need to take issue with a deputy's actions.

As part of the process of continual improvement, Sheriff Knight has outlined procedures from the public to bring forth concerns regarding deputies' actions.

Whether you wish to commend a deputy/employee, or if you believe a deputy or employee of the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office has acted improperly, you can register your commendation or complaint in any of the following ways:

1. You can speak with a supervisor by telephoning the Communications Center at (843) 873-5111 Inform the operator of your desire to speak with a supervisor and you will be assisted.
2. You can telephone Internal Affairs (Internal Affairs) at (843) 832-0307. This office is staffed Monday - Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. After hours you may leave a message with a return telephone number and you will be contacted as soon as possible the next business day.
3. You can make your commendation/complaint in writing directly to Internal Affairs by mailing it to:  
Dorchester County Sheriff's Office  
Internal Affairs  
212 Deming Way  
Summerville, SC 29485
4. You can complete the form online and submit it electronically [here](#).

# DORCHESTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SUMMERVILLE  
212 Deming Way, Box #9  
Summerville, SC 29483  
Office (843) 832-0300  
Fax (843) 832-0308



ST. GEORGE  
100 Sears Street  
St. George, SC 29477  
Office (843) 563-0259  
Fax (843) 563-0263

**SHERIFF L.C. KNIGHT**

You can also make your commendation/complaint by e-mailing Internal Affairs at the following e-mail address: [dnevins@dorchestercounty.net](mailto:dnevins@dorchestercounty.net)

*Under South Carolina law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public-records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.*

When making a commendation/complaint via fax, U.S. Mail, or e-mail, you are encouraged to include your mailing address and/or telephone number so you can be contacted in the event additional information is needed. It will also enable us to inform you of the disposition of your commendation/complaint.

## **Commendations**

There is no greater form of recognition a deputy sheriff/employee can receive than compliment from those they have assisted. A few words of thanks from a citizen means a great deal. In cases where a letter of appreciation from a citizen is submitted, the employee and his/her chain of command, including Sheriff Knight, are made aware of the outstanding performance. A copy of the letter is then placed in the employee's personnel file.

## **Complaints**

Complaints will be promptly and thoroughly investigated. In most cases, the investigation of a complaint will be completed within 45 days. Depending on the nature of the complaint, the investigation may be conducted by Internal Affairs or forwarded to the appropriate Division Commander for investigation. The investigator will interview the concerned parties and witnesses. He/she will record witness statements and gather other relevant information and evidence. If a complaint is sustained, appropriate discipline and/or corrective action will occur.