HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
CHAD CHRONISTER, SHERIFF

Sheriff's Pilot

Job Code: S2790
Pay Grade: SO
Pay Scale: $36.24-$45.70 Hourly; $79,148.16-$99,808.80 Annually
Exempt: No

OVERVIEW

Perform helicopter or fixed wing pilot/copilot/tactical flight officer duties as a law enforcement officer in support of operational mission requirements. Those selected for hire must obtain their private rotorcraft rating and night vision goggle certification within one year of selection. During this training period, they will be either a law enforcement deputy receiving a monthly $150.00 Flight Deputy allowance or a law enforcement detective. After this training is complete, the deputy or detective becomes a certified Sheriff's Pilot, with a salary in the Compensation Grade SO.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Duties may vary based on assignment.

- Perform helicopter or fixed wing pilot/copilot/tactical flight officer duties as a law enforcement officer in support of operational mission requirements which includes reconnaissance, surveillance, traffic control, search and rescue, and passenger transport.
- Develop flight plans in accordance with flight manual; operational requirements; and federal, state, and county procedures and regulations.
- Perform preflight and post flight inspections to determine the aircraft's airworthiness including the visual inspection of flight controls, engine, propellers, night vision, and rotor systems.
- Secure aircraft after mission completion; record flight time, damages, and malfunctions in flight logs and maintenance records; prepare reports; and coordinate required maintenance with ground support personnel.
- Maintain aircrew proficiency and certification in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules and regulations.
- Perform law enforcement deputy duties.
- Administer Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid as required.
- Operate an agency vehicle in support of assigned duties.
- Perform other related duties as required.

KNOWLEDGE & ABILITIES

- Considerable knowledge of FAA, state, and county laws, rules, and ordinances and operating procedures governing flight operations and aircraft maintenance including air traffic control rules and procedures.
- Considerable knowledge of aircraft operational control including instrumentation, weather, emergency procedures, radio communications, and navigation.
- Working knowledge of the functions, services, procedures, and regulations of assigned unit or department.
- Working knowledge of federal, state, and county laws and ordinances pertinent to law enforcement.
- Working knowledge of law enforcement guidelines and criminal investigation methods and techniques.

- Ability to use aircraft crash survival equipment and techniques.
- Ability to administer CPR and First Aid.
- Ability to read maps, flight manuals, and navigational charts.
- Ability to identify and implement in-flight and ground emergency procedures.
- Ability to prepare and maintain flight logs, records, and reports.
- Ability to handle confidential information.
- Ability to follow established procedures.
- Ability to work effectively with others.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Ability to act quickly and correctly in emergencies.
- Ability to pay close attention to detail.
- Ability to enforce the law courteously, tactfully, firmly, and impartially.
- Ability to climb, bend, balance, stoop, kneel, and crouch at ground level.
- Ability to work non-standard duty hours and rotating shifts that include nights, weekends, and holidays.
- Ability to lift and carry up to 100 pounds short distances over rough and/or uneven terrain.
- Ability to swim and tread water wearing a flight suit, boots, and 20 pounds of equipment.
- Ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.
- Ability to work in a subtropical climate under adverse weather conditions and high noise levels.
- Ability to use a computer and related software.

SKILLS

- Flight Operations
- Flight Procedures
- Aircraft Operations
- Helicopter Operations
- Aviation Systems
- Law Enforcement
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- First Aid

WORKING CONDITIONS

- Work outdoors in a subtropical climate in potential adverse weather conditions.
- Operate and maneuver a Sheriff's Office helicopter or fixed-wing aircraft.
- Work can be physically demanding, stressful, and dangerous.
- May engage in extremely heavy physical exertion (e.g., lifting, carrying, pushing and/or pulling objects and materials over 100 pounds).
- May drive a Sheriff’s Office-issued vehicle (e.g., car, full-size van, full-size pickup truck) to perform essential duties.
- Annual physical testing includes running, climbing, lifting, pushing, pulling, and navigating obstacles, along with repetitive hand movements, balance, agility, and sustained physical exertion in varied environments.
- Shift work: May work day or night shifts and non-standard hours/days including weekends and holidays.
- Required to wear a Sheriff’s Office provided uniform.
- In the event of an emergency or disaster, may be required to respond promptly to duties and responsibilities as assigned by management chain, Division/District Commander, or the Sheriff (or their designee). Such assignments may be for before, during or after the emergency/disaster.

MINIMUM EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

- A high school diploma or possession of a GED certificate.
- Six years of experience as a state, county, or city law enforcement officer, three of which must be with the Sheriff’s Office as a law enforcement deputy.
- Possession of a FAA Class II Flight Medical Certificate from an approved Aviation Medical

Examiner.
- Possession of a State of Florida Law Enforcement Officer Certification or ability to take and pass Equivalency of Training (EOT) Course and certification exam.

Additionally, the following are required:

- 21 years of age or older.
- United States citizen.
- Of good moral character.
- Six months tobacco free at time of application.

REQUIRED ANNUAL TESTING

- Successful completion of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Physical Abilities Assessment (PAA).

Note on the PAA

The course consists of the following and must be completed in 5:48 minutes or less:

- 130-foot run followed by scaling a 4-foot-high stationary solid wall.
- 100-foot run to a cone, followed by a 40-foot run to stairs and completion of a 70-step stair climb (one step equals: first foot up, second foot up, first foot down, second foot down).
- 100-foot run followed by climbing through a 3-foot-high window.
- 50-foot run navigating through cones in a serpentine pattern, keeping cones on the indicated side.
- 20-foot movement (push, pull, drag, or walk) of a 180-pound sled back and forth five times, totaling 100 feet.
- 20-foot drag of a 160-pound dummy.

ADDITIONAL JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Attendance at the specified Sheriff's Office work location is required.
- Depending on assignment, employees may be required to possess a valid Florida Driver License at time of employment. Driving history will be thoroughly reviewed and may be grounds for disqualification.
- No visible tattoos on face, head, and neck. Tattoos determined to take away from the professional appearance of the Sheriff's Office must be covered with an appropriate white, black, or neutral covering.
- No illegal drug sale within lifetime.
- No illegal drug use within the past 36 months. No marijuana use within the last 12 months.
- No felony convictions within lifetime.
- No misdemeanor convictions involving perjury, false statement, or domestic violence within lifetime.
- No dishonorable discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces, the United States Coast Guard, National Guard, or Reserve Forces.
- Successful completion of a background investigation including criminal, reference, employment, and neighborhood checks; polygraph; medical evaluation; and drug screening.
- Live within Hillsborough County or within Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Lake, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, or Sumter County as long as the residence is located within the 60-mile parameter of Falkenburg Road Jail at the time of appointment/employment (certified only).

The duties and responsibilities on this job description represent the essential functions that an employee must be able to satisfactorily perform with or without reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations shall be made upon request to enable employees with disabilities to perform the essential functions of their job, absent undue agency hardship. The Sheriff's Office retains the right to change or assign other duties to this job as necessary.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum of 1000 hours of turbine helicopter time and 200 hours of night vision goggle time.
- Tactical Flight Deputy experience.
- FAA Part 133 experience.