

January 3, 1962



Honorable William B. Milfelt
Prosecuting Attorney
Jefferson County
Hillsboro, Missouri

Dear Mr. Milfelt:

We are in receipt of your letter of November 15, 1961, in which you request the opinion of our office regarding the number of deputy sheriffs which Jefferson County should have. Inasmuch as Jefferson County is a second class county we direct your attention to Section 57.220 RSMo 1959, which reads as follows:

"The sheriff, in a county of the second class, shall be entitled to such a number of deputies as the judges of the circuit court shall deem necessary for the prompt and proper discharge of the duties of his office, provided however, such number of deputies appointed by the sheriff shall not be less than one chief deputy sheriff and one additional deputy for each five thousand inhabitants of the county according to the last decennial census. Such deputies shall be appointed by the sheriff, but no appointment shall be come effective until approved by the judges of the circuit court of the county. The judges of the circuit court, by agreement with the sheriff, shall fix the salaries of such deputies. A statement of the number of deputies allowed the sheriff, and their compensation, together with the approval of any appointment by the judges of the circuit court shall be in writing and signed by them and filed by the sheriff with the county court."

Since Jefferson County has a population of 66,377 it should have one chief deputy sheriff and thirteen additional deputies.

Yours truly,

THOMAS F. EAGLETON
Attorney General

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