

HOUSE BILL 1203

By Alexander

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 8 and Title 38, Chapter 3, relative to the duties and powers of sheriffs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Sheriff's Constitutional Duties Act of 2013".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-8-201(a)(2), is amended by deleting the language "furnish them with fire and water;".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-8-213, is amended by deleting the section and substituting instead the following language:

(a) The sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer in the county, and has the first duty to protect the rights of the citizens under the constitution of the United States and of Tennessee, and to enforce the laws of this state and the ordinances of the sheriff's county.

(b) The sheriff and the sheriff's deputies are conservators of the peace and shall have full law enforcement jurisdiction over the sheriff's county.

(c) It is the sheriff's duty:

(1) To suppress all affrays, riots, unlawful assemblies, insurrections and all other breaches of the peace; and

(2) To detect criminal activities; apprehend and arrest offenders lawfully; execute process of law; fingerprint and make record of offenders; and investigate all felonious activity throughout the sheriff's county.

(d) The sheriff's duties shall also include, but not be limited to, calls for service, vice violations, security for public schools, road patrol and responsibility for the free flow of vehicular traffic along all roads, highways and interstates within the sheriff's county.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.