



Fulton County Sheriff's V.I.P.E.R. Operations

New Candidate Information

The following information should be reviewed by each candidate for membership into the Fulton County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) V.I.P.E.R. Operations. The candidate should indicate understanding and acceptance of each of the following requirements for membership:

Officer Expectations

Each member of Fulton County Sheriff's Office V.I.P.E.R. Operations understands that membership is voluntary and participation in activities is on a non-paid basis. Members will be required to meet minimum standards as outlined below and the costs related to participation in required service hours, special events and training are borne by individual members. FCSO Part-time deputies serve at-will at the pleasure of the Sheriff of Fulton County and membership may be revoked with or without cause at any time.

Training Requirements

- Non-certified candidate – Candidate will participate in the first available certification course (Jail or Mandate) and successfully attain the designation within six (6) months of acceptance into the FCSO V.I.P.E.R. Operations. Candidates may participate in certification courses offered by the Sheriff's Office (including night/weekend classes) or any other certification program offered by a POST-certified regional academy.
- Certified Officer candidate – Certified officers must be in good standing with POST or submit a waiver for missed training to reinstate GA Powers of Arrest. Currently certified officer candidates will comply with the FCSO annual training requirements by attending and receiving POST certified training.

Service Requirements

Part-time deputies who wish to maintain active membership in V.I.P.E.R. Operations will be required to provide sixteen (16) hours of service per month. Service hours will be accumulated for all shifts logged, special events attended, and training hours accumulated (up to 24).

Hours will be reviewed quarterly and members who are deficient will be placed on probation until such time the hours meet the minimum requirements. Members who remain on probation for longer than six months will be subject to dismissal, absent justifiable circumstances which must be approved to the V.I.P.E.R. Operations Commander.

Financial Requirements

It is the goal of V.I.P.E.R. Operations not to place unreasonable expectations upon its members for the costs required to participate in its activities. At this time, members are personally responsible to purchase and provide some uniform and duty gear required for participation.

Basic costs associated with participation, including, but not limited to the following, may be required of each member:

- Basic uniform requirements (pants, shirts, boots, jacket, hat)
- Special Police equipment (handcuffs, duty gear, flashlight, batons, protective gear, pepper spray)
- Weapon(s) – primary handgun, rifle/shotgun (if approved), ammo magazines, ASP, OC or Taser (if approved)
- Transportation costs to/from service or event locations

SOP Compliance

It shall be the responsibility of each V.I.P.E.R. Operations member to:

- Review, accept, understand and comply with the Standard Operating Procedures of the Fulton County Sheriff's Office and the operating requirements of V.I.P.E.R. Operations. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in disciplinary action and possible dismissal.
- Members of V.I.P.E.R. Operations who are certified Peace Officers will not be allowed to work "Extra Jobs" for pay until he/she has successfully completed the initial probationary period (one year) and completed required training for Secondary Employment.
- Candidates accepted for membership and who receive a POST certification through the department's/academy's training programs agree to provide at least two years of reserve service to the Sheriff's Office from the date of certification, or the member will be required to reimburse the Sheriff's Office for training costs associated with the certification.

Law Enforcement Training

Candidates for membership in V.I.P.E.R. Operations understand that they will receive specialized law enforcement training at no cost to the member. The purpose of the training provided is to enhance the skill and performance of its members while providing service to the FCSO. It is not the intent of V.I.P.E.R. Operations to become an entry point for civilians to pursue a full-time law enforcement career. Individuals that wish to pursue a professional law enforcement career should do so as a pre-service candidate or pursue employment directly with the FCSO or another law enforcement entity.

FCSO Member Benefits

Membership in Fulton County Sheriff's Office V.I.P.E.R. Operations carries with it certain privileges normally reserved for full-time members of law enforcement agencies, including but not limited to the following:

Law Enforcement Recognition

Members who are accepted for membership and complete required certification(s) will be sworn members of the Fulton County Sheriff's Office and will carry the credentials (badge and ID) of the current sheriff.

Specialized Training

Members of V.I.P.E.R. Operations will receive approved and specialized "in-service" training through the FCSO training unit and its associated regional academy at no cost to the member. This specialized training is privileged and not generally available to civilians. The benefit of this training provides members with special knowledge that is applicable in many civilian environments and emergency situations.

Community Service

Individuals who desire to provide support to the law enforcement community will be exposed to all aspects of the FCSO and its operations. The benefit to the community is immeasurable, and represents a unique opportunity not normally identified as a community service vehicle. Thousands of hours of service are provided by members of V.I.P.E.R. Operations annually to the citizens of Fulton and surrounding counties and municipalities.

Camaraderie

The members of FCSO V.I.P.E.R. Operations come from many diverse backgrounds and enjoy a tremendous esprit de corps and positive social interaction. Many deputies count as their best friends other members of the organization. The average length of service in V.I.P.E.R. Operations is eight (8) years. Members often engage in social activities, travel and professional development with other members.

Acknowledgement

I have read and understand the requirements for membership in the Fulton County Sheriff's Office V.I.P.E.R. Operations and accept responsibility for compliance with those items as outlined above.

Printed Name

Signature

Date