



2013-01

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION ACKNOWLEDGES THE
ELECTED OFFICE OF SHERIFF AS THE
CHIEF LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICE
THROUGHOUT OUR NATION**

WHEREAS, the elected Office of Sheriff is recognized as the chief law enforcement office in many of our nation's counties, parishes, cities, etc., and;

WHEREAS, the elected Office of Sheriff is directly answerable to the people of his or her local jurisdiction who have the right to vote for an elected Office of Sheriff, and;

WHEREAS, all of America's Sheriffs take an Oath of Office to enforce the laws of their State pursuant to the United States Constitution and applicable State constitutions, and;

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association represents over 3,000 elected Sheriffs of our nation who strongly support the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights and their own State constitutions, and;

WHEREAS, America's Sheriffs strongly support our citizens protected rights to bear arms under the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution; nevertheless, the individual Offices/Departments of Sheriff do not possess the judicial nor legal authority under any State constitution nor under the U.S. Constitution the right to interpret the constitutionality of any State or Federal law, and;

WHEREAS, our National Sheriffs' Association protects the jurisdiction of the Department/Office of Sheriff by supporting our nation's local Sheriffs as constitutional or statutory law enforcement officers in discharging and in carrying out their law enforcement duties, correctional authority and administrative responsibilities as provided under State laws, individual State constitutions and the United States Constitution, and;

WHEREAS, as promulgated under the Code of Ethics of the Office of Sheriff of the National Sheriffs' Association, each individual constitutionally/statutorily elected Sheriff pledges to equally protect all individuals and to enforce and to administer their sworn duties in accordance with applicable State constitutions and under the United States Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association recognizes that our nation's over 3,000 Departments/Offices of Sheriff are subject under our representative form of government to the jurisdiction and authority imposed by our

local, State, and Federal governments by their separation of powers into executive, judicial and legislative branches of government; and the National Sheriffs' Association recognizes the right of judicial review of our local, State, and Federal laws and State constitutions by the judicial branch of an applicable State Court or the Constitution of the United States and Bill of Rights by the Federal judiciary, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association recognizes that the doctrine of judicial review grants to our nation's system of State and Federal courts and, finally, to the Supreme Court of the United States, the sole right to interpret our country's laws and to determine if any applicable State or Federal law is deemed to be constitutionally based upon applicable State constitutions or the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights.