



Dear Wisconsin State Journal,

The Village Board has received several questions regarding the cost of the transition from the local Brooklyn Police Department to contracting police services through the Dane County Sheriff's Office (DCSO). We hope this letter will provide clarity and address the questions that we have received.

Because the Village faced and resolved a recent lawsuit over alleged Brooklyn Police Department wrongdoing as well as unresolved Brooklyn PD personnel issues and complaints, the Village's future potential liability needs to be minimized to safeguard the taxpayers against significant future costs. By contracting with DCSO, the Village of Brooklyn's potential liability stemming from policing becomes ZERO.

Besides the liability protection, the contract services from DCSO is a value added product for the Village. To begin to approach this level of service within a small municipality to the degree necessary in current times, the Village would need to engage AT LEAST the following positions or organizations at SIGNIFICANT COST to the residents:

- Attorney, specializing in Police matters
- Police policy and procedure Analyst
- Professional Standards officer
- A specialty organization to Investigate complaints against/incidents by Brooklyn Police
- Police Commission (3-5 people by state statute)
- Full-time Police Administrative Assistant
- Human Resources Administrator
- Increase Police training level beyond State reimbursement level
- Increase Police Insurance and overall Village Insurance coverage
- And more - see attached Appendix

The contract with the DCSO also provides collaborative oversight and management of our community policing to be consistent with changes within our community.

In summary, the Villages is protected from ANY potential future liability arising from police wrongdoing and gains all of the resources of a large and experienced law enforcement agency, while maintaining local control and local identity. Our residences will be well served by the trained and experienced deputies who will serve our community.

In answer to questions, we have 2 full time police officers, 1 limited part-time police officer and 1 limited part-time police secretary. So far in 2021, the workers comp for the police has increased by \$700 and the Village's general liability insurance increased by \$900.

Sincerely,
Village of Brooklyn Board

APPENDIX

Dane County Sheriff's Office Contract Policing Information

The Sheriff's Office provides:

- ❖ Extensive experience in policing and contracting.
- ❖ Full-time, full service agency
- ❖ Uninterrupted service.
- ❖ We are staffed and equipped to meet the responsibilities of county-wide law enforcement.
- ❖ We currently contract with other smaller villages

Supervision:

- ❖ The Dane County Sheriff's Office places strong emphasis on field supervision to direct deputies' activity and ensure accountability.
- ❖ All activities are under supervision of an on-duty supervisory and command staff 24 hours a day.
- ❖ Direct supervision impacts effectiveness and reduces exposure to liability concerns.
- ❖ Comprehensive policies are in place to guide police operations

Personnel Considerations:

- ❖ Personnel matters are addressed by the Sheriff's Office.
- ❖ Human Resources Management (Sheriff's Office and Dane County Employee Relations)
 - ❖ Recruiting, Screening and Employee Selection
 - ❖ Initial Training of all Employees/720 Academy
 - ❖ Labor/Contract Negotiations
- ❖ Employee Benefits Management (Dane County)
 - ❖ Sick time
 - ❖ Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
 - ❖ Health, dental, life insurance management
 - ❖ Fair Labor Standards Act
 - ❖ Worker's Compensation
- ❖ Scheduling (Sheriff's Office staff)
- ❖ Performance Evaluations (Sheriff's Office Supervisors)
- ❖ Employee Grievances (Sheriff's Office Management)
- ❖ Citizen Complaints (Sheriff's Office Supervisors)
- ❖ Internal Affairs (Professional Standards Lieutenant)
- ❖ Discipline (Sheriff's Office Supervisors)
- ❖ Employee Assistance Program (Dane County Program)
- ❖ 24 Hour Supervision
- ❖ Risk Management (Dane County)
- ❖ Ongoing Planning, Research and Policy Development (Sheriff's Office)
- ❖ Ongoing Training and Certification (Sheriff's Office Training Section)
- ❖ Lawsuit Litigation and Legal Counsel through Dane County Corporation Counsel Office
- ❖ Compliance with OSHA requirements (Risk Management)
- ❖ Transcription Services (Sheriff's Office Clerical Staff)
- ❖ Computer Services (Sheriff's Office and Dane County Information Management)
- ❖ Accounting and Finance (Budget Analyst & Accounts Payable & Payroll)

Additional personnel & Functions:

- ❖ Public Information Officer
- ❖ Records Management Section (Sheriff's Office handles Public Records Requests)
- ❖ Federal Agency/Task Force coordination
- ❖ Vehicle and Equipment Coordinator
- ❖ TIME System Manager

Investigative Support

- ❖ Community Deputies
 - Embedded Mental Health Worker
- ❖ Detectives
- ❖ Computer Crimes Detective
- ❖ Domestic Abuse Detectives (4)
- ❖ Crime Scene Unit
- ❖ Evidence and Property Manager
- ❖ Crime Analyst

Special Operations Units:

- ❖ Tactical Response Team (TRT)
- ❖ Hostage Negotiations Team (HNT)
- ❖ K-9 Unit
- ❖ Dive Team
- ❖ Marine and Trail Enforcement (MATE)
- ❖ Traffic Team
- ❖ Dane County Narcotics and Gangs Taskforce
- ❖ Crash Reconstruction