## **Sheriff's Safety Meetings**





The 89th Regular Legislative Session concluded on June 2, 2025. Several bills were enacted related to school safety, including House Bill 33 and House Bill 121. These bills improve school safety initiatives across the State of Texas.

Local Government Code, §85.024, as amended, requires the Sheriff of all Texas counties to hold a school safety meeting at least once per year while counties having a population of 350,000 or less are required to hold two safety meetings per year. Please see below for mandatory attendees and topics for each meeting.

## **Requirements for All Counties**

With the signing of <u>House Bill 33 (89R Legislative Session</u>), Local Government Code, §85.024 is amended to require the sheriff of a county wherein a public school is located to call and conduct an annual safety meeting.

**Meeting Topics** 

Topics for the safety meeting should include:

- school safety;
- coordinated law enforcement response to school violence incidents;
- law enforcement agency capabilities;
- available resources;
- emergency radio interoperability;
- chain of command planning;
- each public school's multihazard emergency operations plan, including a discussion and analysis
  of how the school's multihazard emergency operations plan will be implemented during an
  emergency situation; and
- other related subjects proposed by a person in attendance at the meeting.

#### Persons in Attendance

In accordance with House Bill 33, for counties with a population **more** than 350,000, the following individuals must attend the safety meeting:

- For each school district located in the county, the police chief of the district's police department, or the chief's designee; or
- For each school district in the county that contracts with another political subdivision for law enforcement services, the chief administrative officer of the law enforcement agency providing law enforcement services to the district, or the officer's designee; and
- the superintendent of each school district located in the county; and
- any other person the sheriff considers appropriate

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### Requirements for Counties with a Population of Less Than 350,000

House Bill 121 expands the safety meeting requirements outlined in House Bill 33, providing added clarity to existing law. With the signing of <a href="House Bill 121">House Bill 121</a> (89R Legislative Session), Local Government Code, \$85.024 is amended to require the sheriff of a county having a population of less than 350,000 wherein a school system is located to call and conduct a safety meeting at least twice each calendar year (not less than three months apart). Topics for these safety meetings include those outlined above.

### **Meeting Topics**

Topics for the safety meeting should include:

- school safety;
- coordinated law enforcement response to school violence incidents;
- law enforcement agency capabilities;
- available resources;
- emergency radio interoperability;
- · chain of command planning; and
- other related subjects proposed by a person in attendance at the meeting.

#### Persons in Attendance

In accordance with House Bill 33, for counties with a population of less than 350,000, the following individuals must attend the safety meeting:

- the sheriff or the sheriff's designee;
- the police chief of a municipal police department in the county or the police chief 's designee;
- each elected constable in the county or the constable's designees;
- each police chief of a school district 's police department or school district security coordinator from each school district located in the county;
- a representative of the Department of Public Safety assigned to the county;
- a representative of each other state agency with commissioned peace officers assigned to the county;
- a person appointed to a command staff position at an emergency medical service in the county;
- a person appointed to a command staff position at a municipal emergency medical service in the county;
- a person appointed to a command staff position at a fire department in the county;
- the superintendent or the superintendent's designee of each school district located in the county;
- the person who serves the function of superintendent, or that person's designee, in each openenrollment charter school located in the county;
- a representative of the Texas Division of Emergency Management; and
- any other person the sheriff considers appropriate