



#777

Pledge and Oath of Deputy Sheriff and Special Deputy Sheriff

Sheriff's Office, Dutchess County
Poughkeepsie, New York

HUMBLY recognizing the responsibilities entrusted to me, I do vow that I shall always consider the high calling of the law enforcement to be an honorable profession, the duties of which are recognized by me as both an art and a science. I recognize fully my responsibilities to defend the right, to protect the weak, to aid the distressed, and to uphold the law in public duty and in private living. I accept the obligation in connection with my assignments to report facts and to testify without bias or display of emotion, and to consider the information, coming to my knowledge by virtue of my position, as a sacred trust, to be used solely for official purposes. To the responsibilities entrusted to me of seeking to prevent crime, of finding the facts of law violations and of apprehending fugitives and criminals, I shall give my loyal and faithful attention and shall always be equally alert in striving to acquit the innocent and to convict the guilty. In the performance of my duties and assignments, I shall not engage in unlawful and unethical practices but shall perform the functions of my office without fear, without favor, and without prejudice. At no time shall I disclose to an unauthorized person any fact, testimony, or information in any pending matter coming to my official knowledge which may be calculated to prejudice the minds of existing or prospective judicial bodies either to favor or to disfavor any person or issue. While occupying the status of a law enforcement officer or at any other time subsequent thereto, I shall not seek to benefit personally because of my knowledge of any confidential matter which has come to my attention. I am aware of the serious responsibilities of my office and in the performance of my duties I shall seek to supply comfort, advice and aid to those who may be in need of such benefits; I shall wage vigorous warfare against the enemies of my country, of its laws, and of its principles; I shall seek to eliminate the criminal parasite which preys upon our social order and to strengthen the lawful processes of our body politic. I shall acquire due knowledge of the laws of my domain and seek to preserve and maintain the majesty and dignity of the law; it will be my endeavor to learn all pertinent truth about accusations and complaints which come to my lawful knowledge. I shall bear an attitude of true friendship and courteous respect to all citizens; and as an officer, I shall always be loyal to my duty, my organization, and my country. I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, and will constantly strive to cooperate with and promote cooperation between all regularly constituted law enforcement agencies and officers in the performance of duties of mutual interest and obligation, and I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New York and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the Office of Deputy Sheriff according to the best of my ability.

Name Herbert Wilken Address Red Hook, New York

Date of Appointment 3/26/43 Date of Oath 3/26/43

Witness:

C. Fred Close
Sheriff, Dutchess County