

## **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SCHOOL-BASED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY FOR CHRISTIAN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS**, the Christian County Board of Education ("Board") recognizes the critical importance of maintaining a safe and secure environment for students, staff, and visitors within Christian County Public Schools ("District");

**WHEREAS**, KRS 160.160 and KRS 160.290 grant local boards of education the authority to establish a police department for local school districts, including appointing police officers and other employees, prescribing uniforms, and designating and operating emergency vehicles; and

**WHEREAS**, KRS 158.441 defines a School Resource Officer ("SRO") as a sworn law enforcement officer with specialized training to work with youth in a school setting, certified under KRS 15.380 through KRS 15.404.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Christian County Board of Education as follows:

1. **Establishment of the Christian County School-Based Law Enforcement Agency (SBLEA):** The Board authorizes the creation of the Christian County School-Based Law Enforcement Agency ("SBLEA"), serving the District with full compliance under KRS 160.160, 160.290, and other applicable laws.

2. **Appointment of Personnel:** Police officers and necessary personnel shall be appointed in accordance with statutory requirements. Officers will be peace officers and conservators of the peace as outlined in KRS 158.473 and shall, at all times, meet the qualifications set forth in KRS 61.300 and other applicable law. Officers

will be employees of the District. Officers will have general police powers, including the power to arrest, without process, all persons who commit any crime or misdemeanor within their view. Officers will possess all common law and statutory powers, privileges, and immunities of sheriffs and other law enforcement officers as more particularly described in KRS 158.473.

3. **Insurance.** The Board shall provide worker's compensation insurance as required by law. The Board shall provide liability insurance coverage for acts or omissions of the officers within the scope of their duties.

4. **Uniforms and Emergency Vehicles:** Distinctive uniforms will be prescribed for SBLEA officers, and emergency vehicles will be designated and operated in compliance with applicable laws.

5. **Training and Certification:** Officers appointed to the SBLEA will be certified under KRS 15.380(1)(e) and undergo specialized training to work in a school setting, which shall include SRO Training Levels I, II, and III under KRS 158.4414.

6. **Roles and Responsibilities:** Policies and procedures will define the roles of SBLEA officers, ensuring they focus on law enforcement and safety while not assuming responsibilities related to school discipline, which remain under the purview of school administrators.

7. **Funding and Accountability:** The Board will determine funding sources for the SBLEA and ensure annual reporting to the Kentucky Center for School Safety on the number, placement, and employment status of SROs in accordance with KRS 158.442.

Adopted, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2024

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Lindsey Clark, Vice-Chair

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Christopher Bentzel, Secretary