

### ***Becoming a Member***

The Posse always welcomes new members. It is required that members have the use of a horse and means to transport it. It is not required that they live in Carver County. Those who are interested are encouraged to attend one of the Posse's monthly meetings, which are on the second Monday of each month.

For more information, contact the Sheriff's Office at 952-361-1212.

*Our mission is to serve everyone with respect and dignity, and to do so with honor, integrity and pride.*



### ***Numbers to Know***

To request any police, fire, or medical response or report any emergency...

**Dial ... 911**

To contact dispatch for non-emergency information during and after normal business hours...

**Dial... 952-361-1231**

For general questions, or to request to speak to a deputy, or to have your call directed during normal business hours...

**Dial... 952-361-1212**

Carver County Tip Line...

**Dial... 952-361-1224**

For information regarding civil process service...

**Dial... 952-361-1267**

For information on Jail visiting hours...

**Dial 952-361-1278**

Carver County Sheriff's Office  
606 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chaska, MN 55318-2102

[www.co.carver.mn.us](http://www.co.carver.mn.us)

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# ***Carver County Sheriff's Mounted Posse***



***Proudly serving  
Carver County  
with respect,  
dignity, honor  
and integrity  
since 1965.***

## **HISTORY**

Established in 1965, the Carver County Sheriff's Mounted Posse is a volunteer organization that assists the Sheriff's Office with security and crowd control, search and rescue operations, community relations and outreach activities, as well as special missions as assigned.

The Posse consists of volunteers who provide service to the Carver County community.

## **ACTIVITIES**

Some examples of the kind of service the Posse provides are:

### **Security and crowd control**

These services are performed primarily on horseback and sometimes on foot. Some examples are:

- Security at the Carver County Rodeo and Winstock
- Patrol in cities and parks
- Patrol at various community events and concerts

### **Search and Rescue**

The Posse is a valuable resource for search and rescue operations, as horses are able to venture into terrain that is otherwise not easily accessible.



## **Outreach**

On behalf of the Sheriff's Office, Posse members visit schools and teach kids about our work. The Posse also visits neighborhoods during National Night Out, and similar community events.

## **Parades**

The Posse represents the Sheriff's Office in many parades throughout the summer, for example:

- Steamboat Days in September
- Several 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades throughout the area
- Carver County Fair parade

## **THE MAKING OF A POSSE HORSE**

Horses provide law enforcement agencies with a unique combination of authority and approachability. While they have command presence that can move a crowd quickly and efficiently, they also generate social interaction like nothing else can in the Sheriff's Office.

Horses are one of the most perceptive mammals on earth, with memory capacities that are second only to that of elephants. By nature, they are prey animals and have a strong instinct of flight. Confronted with situations that are perceived as a threat, the horse's first reaction is to escape. At the same time, they are herd animals that feel comfortable and protected as part of a larger herd. All of these things are taken into account during Mounted Posse training

sessions. To work through their natural fear – tolerating everything from sirens to fireworks and baby strollers to barking dogs – Posse horses need to trust their rider above all else. They must also work well with other horses, and be people-oriented animals, with a calm and willing nature and a desire to please.

## **TRAINING**

Members and their horses must pass "Sensory Training" each spring. The training involves an *Obstacle course* that exposes the horse and rider to many situations that are normally frightening to horses, such as guns sounding, pulling an injured person on a sled, going over bridges, water obstacles, etc. The horses and riders must also pass an *Equitation test*, which involves basic maneuvers on horseback, such as walking, trotting and cantering at a controlled pace, taking the correct lead at a canter, side passing in both directions, turning on the forehand and turning on the haunches.

In addition to Sensory Training, Posse members attend multiple training sessions throughout the year, both mounted and unmounted. Some examples are police radio training, CPR and first aid, and risk management.

