



Los Angeles County **Sheriff's Department**

Structured Interview Preparation

Only successful candidates will proceed to the structured interview. There are several things you can do now to prepare for your interview. A good way to begin is by considering the following information.

BE PREPARED:

- Investigate the position
- Read the recruitment literature
- Talk with deputies
- Consider participating in the ride-along program
- Take a correctional facility tour

AREAS OF EVALUATION:

- Your interest in the position
- Communication Skills

POSSIBLE AREAS OF QUESTIONING:

- Departmental knowledge
- Do you understand the duties of a Deputy Sheriff?
- Why do you want to be a Deputy?
- Why did you choose Law Enforcement as a career?
- What have you done to prepare yourself for the position?
- What will be the most challenging aspect for you in becoming a deputy?

DUTIES OF A DEPUTY SHERIFF:

- Preservation of life
- Apprehension of criminals
- Recovery of stolen property
- Protect life and property
- Preserve public peace
- Prevent crime
- Detect and arrest violators of the law

APPROPRIATE GROOMING:

- Remember, first impressions are important.
- Departmental grooming standards are recommended, but not mandatory.
- Proper business attire is recommended.

DO:

- Be polite and courteous
- Make eye contact with board members
- Be honest
- Take time to think before you speak

WHAT IF YOU DON'T PASS?

If you do not pass your first structured interview, you will be scheduled for another structured interview with a panel composed of two raters. In the meantime, improve your verbal communication skills. Practice by having family and friends interview you. If you diligently apply yourself to improving your verbal communication skills, you have every reason to expect to do better the next time you have your structured interview.