

October 3, 2016 @ 5:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Sign-up Sheet

Public Hearing for Rezoning Application #R-2016-01 / Russell Galloway

→ Please Print ←

Name:

Address:

- | Name:               | Address:                          |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Chuck Francis    | 814 Mc Murray Road Flat Rock      |
| 2. Russell Galloway | 736 Mc Murray Road Flat Rock      |
| 3. Patricia Johnson | speaking for 412 McMurray Rd F.R. |
| 4. Verlyn Owenby    | 364 McMurray Rd Flat Rock         |
| 5. Mike Kitchen     | owner Eddy Manor                  |
| 6. Marsha King      | prop owners next to Eddy Manor    |
| 7. William Sherman  | 1 of 4 tenants in common          |
| 8.                  |                                   |
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# PUBLIC COMMENT SIGNUP SHEET

## OCTOBER 3, 2016

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §153A-52.1, the Henderson County welcomes public comment at its meetings. Please note that each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes, unless a different time limit is announced. Also, the Board may adopt rules limiting the number of persons speaking taking the same position on a given issue, and other rules regarding the maintenance of good order.

**Each speaker should be aware and by their signatures hereto they agree that their comments may be recorded (by audio-visual recordings, photography or other means), and may be (but are not required to be) broadcast by the County as a part of the broadcast of this meeting, or as a part of the County's programming on its local video channel(s). By their signature they further agree that Henderson County is and will be the sole owner of all rights in and to such programming. The undersigned hereby indemnifies Henderson County, its employees and agents, against any and all claims, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses arising out of the use of the undersigned's images and words in connection therewith.**

1.

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**PRINTED** NAME

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Topic

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MAILING ADDRESS

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MAILING ADDRESS



# Sheriff Charles S. McDonald

HENDERSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
100 North Grove Street  
Hendersonville, NC 28792

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September 30, 2016

Gentlemen;

As the hour approaches for you to cast your vote for or against the Henderson County Law Enforcement Training Center, I understand the trepidation that each of you must feel, as leaders of our community, regarding the expenditure of public monies. For that very reason, I am submitting this document so that you will be reminded not only of each of your promises to me for a suitable facility as soon as possible, but that this is in fact a critical need for all of our law enforcement as well as the citizens of Henderson, and surrounding counties.

This Board of Commissioners has been largely responsible for taking measured risks over the years by building schools, courthouses, a modern Sheriff's Office, DSS and so many other capital projects that commissioners before you had often ignored. The result is that we are an inviting community whose leaders have built needed infrastructure when interest rates were down, in order to accommodate the needs of the community today, and hopefully in the years to come. When you made each of those decisions, you also had to consider future trends as possible indicators of what would be required in the service lifetime of those buildings. Your collective track record is very good. Today, I am asking you to consider the facts and projected needs of law enforcement not only in our county, but indeed in WNC.

Today, law enforcement in our nation is under assault. Contrary to what our national media would have you believe, this is not about black vs white, rich vs poor, educated vs uneducated, Democrat vs Republican, or gay vs straight. It is however, about a global effort to destabilize and topple our western way of life by pitting any and all of these opposing ideologies against each other while inciting violence, dissolution of our Constitution, and disregard for the rule of law. Those who oppose us know and understand that if they can undermine and erode the public confidence in our nation's police; their end game can take place much more quickly.

What we are facing today in law enforcement is more disturbing and promises to be much longer lasting, than any previous seasons of riot and discourse in our history. We know that the enemies that we face are increasingly better armed, better trained, better financed, are more ideologically focused, and are living among us now. The HCSO has had Facebook threats against deputies. We have had what appear to have been reconnaissance operations directed at our building and personnel, and we have had deputies lured into calls where we strongly suspect that we were being watched and gauged for response times and methodologies.



# Sheriff Charles S. McDonald

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100 North Grove Street  
Hendersonville, NC 28792

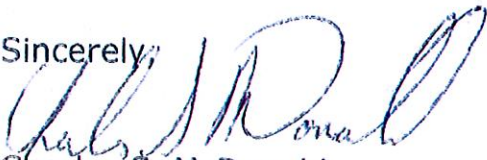
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We do not have a training venue today to properly train and prepare for the threats that we have been facing for the past 5 years. We certainly do not have what we need for today's threats and for what we anticipate we will be facing in the future. We must have a facility that will allow us to incorporate training in teams for active shooter scenarios. We must be able to work in concert with other agencies in our area and to know that our training is standardized and up to date for the weapons and equipment that we utilize. Beyond that, we need access to an area that will allow us to practice and maintain these perishable skills in order to avoid the tragedies so often faced by agencies whose lack of training has resulted in defaming the honor and character of our profession.

This facility would also allow us to draw special training programs that we need but cannot currently support or afford due to lack of a suitable facility and the cost to send our deputies and police to. This training venue would allow us the opportunity to bring in training at no cost to us, but allow other agencies to pay for their attendees. Once up and running, based on the training challenges that we face at this time, I believe that such a facility would be in high demand for paying customer.

In closing I would remind the commissioners that in a worst case scenario, the Sheriff could find himself in a position to train and prepare trustworthy citizens for the purposes of supplementing overtaxed law enforcement by means of a citizen posse. While such an option might seem extreme today, failure to plan for such possibilities while looking at today's threat trends would be totally irresponsible. This county and in fact all of WNC would benefit if you will follow through on your commitment to me, this very critical training facility with back up communications center, as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Charles S. McDonald  
Sheriff, Henderson County

**Attachments:**

**Letter to Citizens (Guardian) September 2016**  
**HC Board of Commissioners Proposal PowerPoint**



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The Guardian



*Deputy Stepp and Deputy Corps operating the bomb robot from inside the EOD truck.*

Henderson County Sheriff's Office Newsletter

September 2016

It seems that lately the state of American law enforcement is a common topic of television news stories. Whether from newspaper editorials, media commentaries, or opportunistic sound bites for politicians either for or against the police, everyone can have and give an opinion regardless of whether or not it is based on facts or truth. Again, I note that some of the most passionate opinions regarding law enforcement are put forth by many with no real concept of what the job entails or how brutally difficult it is, nor of the high toll exacted from the men and women and their families who serve this noble call. When officers must act with force in order to carry out their sworn duty, very few people stop to consider the psychological after effects, the emotional pain, guilt, sorrow and strain on family and other relationships that will be experienced by the officer. Lately, the police are criticized by those who weren't there, judged by a few frames of video and indicted by left over false narratives and unfounded angry public opinion. Media sources, both corporate and private, fan the flames of hate and perceived injustice, seemingly in the hopes of inspiring those who are emotionally unbalanced or motivated by hate, to further hate and even murder law enforcement officers.

There are some interesting dichotomies at play here. More police are being assaulted than ever before. The tactics and weaponry being utilized against us are more sophisticated and dangerous, yet there are many who resent that the police have had to change our tactics, weaponry and protective gear in order to do our jobs and protect our communities. We "look too military" they say. The cops in Dallas, wearing short pants, neon vests and handguns, running to battle an armed rifleman who was using basic military tactics, looked both brave and ridiculously vulnerable to

me. In the Orlando night club shooting, one SWAT officer's life was saved when his Kevlar helmet stopped a 5.56mm bullet from entering his skull at 3200 feet per second. Those helmets are included in the military surplus gear that our president is taking back from police agencies because evidently when cops wear military looking equipment, they forget that they aren't the military. Mr. President, it is good leadership, training and local accountability that keep the police on track. Not lofty leftist ideology enforced by your Justice Department which itself is staggering under the weight of political corruption and over reach at the highest levels.

Then there is training. Often, the same people who accuse us of being over armed, want to tell us how we should or should not train, based solely on their perception of how the world should be, rather than how it is. Again, these are people who because of "the thin blue line" have never had to experience life or death fights in the street or leave the relative safety of a protective barrier to put themselves in the line of fire to save the life of a stranger. They have never had to comfort a child who watched his father beat and kill his mother or deliver a death notification to a family member. They have never had to attend the funeral of a fellow officer killed by an emotionally disturbed individual who should have been under medical care, but instead was left to founder in the streets. Rather than support programs, equipment or facilities that can better train and prepare officers for the unpredictable, rapidly evolving, chaotic and blood freezing situations they often find themselves in, perhaps we need to teach cops how to overlook their desire to live another day. Let's hold them to standards and expectations that minimize the value of their lives and the sacrifices that they make. After all, (and I have heard this said), "They chose to be a cop. They deserve what they get." The irony is that while all police value their lives and want to go home to their families, their normal course of action when it comes to saving a life is to lay down their own for that of another. We honor that sacrifice, but no one has the right to require it of us.

Taking a life, or laying one down, is always a last resort. How do we minimize the need to resort to either one? We train. We train to reasonable and often state or federally mandated standards. At the Henderson County Sheriff's Office, if we don't believe those standards are high enough, we will raise the standard to what we believe is proper and acceptable. We can never train as thoroughly as we would like to. Time and money are often limiting factors. We are also limited, like most agencies, by a lack of resources and training venues that allow us to train as realistically or as often as we need to. We don't just train to fight and shoot. We train how to avoid fighting and shooting. Think about the amount of time a soldier devotes to becoming and remaining proficient in his or her area of expertise. They devote considerable time to studying and practicing their trade with specialized training areas, unlimited supplies and equipment, and they learn to do it well. Their mission is to close with and destroy the enemy as quickly and as completely as possible. Their enemy is clearly defined, as is their mission and their objective. In the case of law enforcement, however, we are bound by a totally different mission, rules of law and rules of engagement. We do not go to work for the purpose of waging war, or killing or hurting anyone. We must be able to navigate through all levels of society respectfully and competently. We are peacemakers, problem solvers, counselors and arbitrators. We provide compassionate service whenever possible, and we also enforce the rule of law. We practice conflict de-escalation, crisis resolution, and we respond to overwhelming crisis events where lives are being threatened or have been taken. We may be the first on the scene, or we may have to pair up with another deputy or police officer and navigate into an event that is chaotic, complex and uncertain and has



escalated out of control. Our job is to "bring order to chaos". We have to be able to observe and orient as to what is going on, often with little or conflicting information from panicked witnesses and victims. We must also make a plan, as we run toward uncertainty, while attempting to process and disseminate critical information. We must then be able to take effective action in order to restore peace and safety for others. Sometimes these events can unfold in an instant, in the presence of one or many officers, before they even know it is coming. We must be proficient in all of our skills in order to overcome and survive and ensure the survival of our fellow officers and our citizens. These skills can never be fully mastered but must be continually practiced and rehearsed. The training environment must allow trainers and students to participate in realistic scenarios and conditions, with ever changing problems, utilizing the skills, equipment and legal considerations common to the expected situations and conditions of the officers' work environment.

Law Enforcement training in this nation has traditionally trained to "recent history" when it comes to developing training protocols and programs. Often we have been limited by training venues that were built in the hopes that meeting the needs of the day was good enough for later. For that reason, many LE training venues are limited to providing classroom training with little opportunity for practical exercises and the continual enhancement of skills in tactics and critical thinking and decision making. It is imperative that law enforcement train with an eye toward what is trending in the future; not what happened yesterday. Most LE training venues don't offer the ability to practice rapid escalation and de-escalation of force in ongoing and evolving scenarios that allow trainers and students to work toward an acceptable level of operational proficiency. Deputies and police must be able to practice the various maneuvers necessary when working in concert with other agencies in active shooter response, or from or around vehicles, or in concert with rescue personnel who may need to be transitioned into a warm zone in order to triage and help the injured. All law enforcement and emergency services must be enabled to plan and train together in order to enhance our operational effectiveness in crisis situations.

There are two major problems common to law enforcement across this nation. First of all, law enforcement agencies are facing critical staffing challenges which are being further hampered by a shortage of qualified and motivated recruits. The second is that agencies generally don't have the resources or support to ensure that all personnel are prepared to acceptable standards of readiness based on anticipated threat levels and trends. As a law enforcement instructor for the largest part of my 29 years with the Henderson County Sheriff's Office, I understand the importance of relevant and continued training. I always have, and will always be, committed to providing the best training and preparation to all of those who serve this county. I suspect that our citizens expect it, and I think that they deserve nothing less.



Sheriff Charles McDonald



**OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**  
**Henderson County**  
**North Carolina**



*"A Brotherhood in Pursuit of Excellence"*

**Sheriff Charles S. McDonald**



# Law Enforcement Training Center

## Conceptual Project Information:

- Budget: \$19,942,000
- Schedule: 22 months
  - Design: 12 months
  - Construction: 10 months
- Scope:
  - 49,000 square feet
  - Portion of range space at 100 yards, portion at 50 yards
  - 180 Degree shooting capability at last 30 yards of each space
  - Indoor Police Officer Physical Abilities Test (POPAT), per state requirements- Classrooms, Simulator space, etc.
  - 1,200 sf for back up PSAP (911 Center)
  - Located on BRCC Campus



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# Law Enforcement Training Center

- Allows for realistic training more suited to real world environments. The current structure at the NCJA allows for one dimensional shooting and is only useful for marksmanship training and qualification. There is no ability to work Deputies through scenarios involving:
  - multiple shooters
  - multiple targets
  - shooting on the move and behind cover
  - 180 degree engagement
  - team deployment and movement
  - deploying from vehicles
  - firing into and from vehicles
  - insertion of special effects
  - shooting from distances greater than 50 yards
  - ability to configure range bays to accommodate simulated force on force training that has been scientifically proven as the best way to stress inoculate personnel and improve decision making and performance under stress



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- Integration of classroom and simulator (VirTra) training with live fire range time.
- Indoor POPAT course for BRCC and HCSO use to test physical fitness standards per state mandated requirements.
- Allows our instructor cadre and agency to partner with BRCC to test, train and evaluate new recruits throughout the BLET process for possible employment.
- The existence of this kind of state of the art facility will draw recruits from across the state to our BRCC BLET program, putting us in contact with a larger and more diverse applicant pool than before.
- Ability to partner with local EMS and Fire, as well as municipal Police Departments to conduct multi-agency training in areas like response to an active shooter, mass casualty and large scale protest events.



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- Location of back-up PSAP facility for our 911 Center as mandated by state 911 board for designated PSAPs.
- Cost savings for co-locating
- Required by State 911 Board for uninterrupted service



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# Law Enforcement Training Center

## Debt Service Schedule:

1. Board approved one cent of the FY2017 tax rate for the project's debt service (\$1.283 Million / year)
2. Debt Service Schedule
  - Interest Rate: 2.8%
  - Yearly Payment: \$1,281,000
  - Number of Yearly Payments: 20



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