

## Kendall County Office of the Sheriff

Office of the Sheriff

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## **Kendall County Sheriff's Office Shooting Range**

After a thorough review of the facts associated with the Sheriff's office gun range, Kendall County State's Attorney Weis concluded the gun range has been operating legally since its inception.

The Kendall County Sheriff's Office is committed to providing vital and important firearms proficiency training to our deputies. By having a firearms training range located in the county it has saved tens of thousands of dollars over the years in travel costs and potential overtime expenses. We do collaborate with other local law enforcement agencies to utilize their indoor gun range for some of our training, but not all firearms training can be done at an indoor range.

For the past 2 decades, random acts of violence around the United States and in Illinois have occurred at schools, churches and our places of work. Now more than ever your local law enforcement needs firearms proficiency and tactical training. We combine our training to develop and create rapid response to these random acts of violence to reduce the loss of life. As an unfortunate example, this was recently seen in Aurora Illinois on February 15 2019, when Aurora Police and many other law enforcement agencies responded to an active shooter. Once law enforcement officers were on the scene no other innocent victims lost their lives, an example of how important rapid response to these situations.

"We focus more on firearms and tactical training now than years past. We are expected to immediately respond to random acts of violence, such as an active shooter, in order to save lives. We have accepted that responsibility, and the men and women of the Kendall County Sheriff's

Office will continue training to succeed and provide the highest quality service they can to the community we serve. I truly appreciate the support of the public and the County Board over the years to ensure our deputies are properly supported and trained," said Kendall County Sheriff Dwight Baird.

Sheriff Dwight Baird added, "I appreciate the recent discussions I have had with some residents regarding our firearms training range. I am very thankful for their support to provide firearms training to our deputies and other law enforcement agencies. During some of these discussions, I also heard their concerns about the noise that sometimes is heard because of our firearms training. We have limited the number of law enforcement agencies from outside Kendall County that use the range and will further look into other training possibilities as they become available. We have limited the times of the day the firearms training facility can be used. We are looking to limit the days of the week that the firearms range can be used without jeopardizing the quality of our overall firearms and tactical training programs."