

Madison Hires Raines

From: N. Austin Fax <afax@lowtherjohnson.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 2025 7:00 PM
To: Madison Hires Raines
Cc: Paula Brumfield; Mark Hamilton
Subject: RE: Retirement Deduction Update - Missouri Sheriffs' Retirement System
Attachments: 1624607.pdf

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Madi:

I spoke with the Sheriff this morning and I am attaching a copy of an opinion letter I previously wrote for Greene County on this issue that I believe addresses your question. I believe Sheriff Cole has a copy of this letter as it was provided to him by Sheriff Arnott.

As far as your other questions, you are correct that the statute uses the word "may," indicating that the County "may appropriate funds for deposit in the sheriffs' retirement fund." The use of the word "may" is permissive, not mandatory. So, the County would have to choose to do that. As far as your question as to who is the "deciding voice" for whether the County pays, that decision would need to be made by the Commissioners, as they control the purse strings of the County.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

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