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Sunrise Beach Police Dept. 32 Sunset Hills CT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Missouri Blue Shield Designation

May 28, 2025

Sunrise Beach, MO – Today, Sunrise Beach officially received Missouri Blue Shield designation from the Missouri Department of Public Safety. This prestigious honor recognizes Missouri communities that demonstrate a steadfast commitment to enhancing public safety and supporting law enforcement.

The Missouri Blue Shield Program, created by Governor Kehoe in January 2025 through Executive Order 25-03, recognizes local governments that make significant efforts to reduce crime, foster law enforcement collaboration, and build strong community partnerships for public safety.

"Public safety is the foundation of a thriving community and state. It affects everything from families feeling secure to businesses having the confidence to invest and grow," said Governor Kehoe. "We designed the Missouri Blue Shield Program to recognize communities that go above and beyond in creating a place where people want to live, work, and build their futures. A Missouri Blue Shield designation is a testament to the hard work and dedication of local governments across Missouri who are leading the way in making public safety a priority."

"The Department of Public Safety is proud to work alongside communities like Sunrise Beach, that have shown exceptional dedication to enhancing public safety," said Mark James, Director of the Missouri Department of Public Safety (DPS). "This program is about fostering collaboration between local law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve. Our goal is to support these efforts, providing resources and guidance to help communities build sustainable, long-term solutions for crime reduction and public safety."

"We're proud to get the Missouri Blue Shield designation! It shows what can happen when a community pulls together. Our police, our board, and our residents all care deeply about making Sunrise Beach safe, and this recognition means a lot. It's proof we're moving in the right direction."

— Susan Schneider, Chairman of the Board, Village of Sunrise Beach

"This designation is a powerful validation of what our officers and community have been working towards! Creating a safer, stronger Sunrise Beach through partnership, accountability, and a relentless commitment to public safety. We're honored to receive the Missouri Blue Shield and proud to stand alongside other communities making public safety a top priority."

— Chief Scott Craig, Sunrise Beach Police Department

Eligibility and Program Details

Communities are eligible for a Missouri Blue Shield designation based on their dedication to reducing crime, making substantial investments in public safety, and developing strong collaboration with law enforcement agencies and community stakeholders. Each participating community's commitment will be reviewed annually to ensure continued alignment with the program's goals.

Participation Incentives

Communities that earn a Missouri Blue Shield designation will receive grant funding for law enforcement training and equipment as part of Governor Kehoe's Recommended Budget for the State Fiscal Year 2026. Communities will also be featured on Governor Kehoe's social media pages as well as the DPS website to highlight their participation in the program.

About Sunrise Beach

Sunrise Beach earned a Missouri Blue Shield designation due to its exceptional commitment to public safety. Through initiatives, such as officer recruitment efforts, major law enforcement funding, partnerships with community stakeholders, etc., the community has demonstrated a strong and ongoing commitment to protecting its residents. This designation affirms Sunrise Beach's effort to create a safer, more secure environment for all who live and work here.

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Scott Craig, Chief of Police