

## LEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

### DAY WORK PROGRAM

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#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:**

The Day Work Program participants, both male and female, will perform manual labor at non-profit County, City, and Government organizations/agencies for no wage. The minimum number of days an offender is required to participate is a mandatory two days per week. The participant is required to show up on their scheduled days, every single week until all days are completed. The Day Work Program operates Monday through Saturday and the offender will generally work up to a nine hour day; this will include a thirty minute lunch and two fifteen minute breaks during the day. Certified staff of the Lee Country Sheriff's Office and other municipal and county employees will supervise program participants. Attendance, conduct and compliance of program participants will be documented by corrections personnel.

#### **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:**

This program will provide a sentencing alternative for offenders who could be given the option at the time of sentencing to perform various labor activities for the benefit of the community in lieu of incarceration at the Lee

County Jail. The program participant is repaying their debt to society by working in Lee County, thereby saving the taxpayer money. The Sheriff's Day Work Program is an extremely useful jail management tool.

#### **HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS:**

At the time of sentencing, the Judge will need to note specific orders on the commitment form/minutes sheet as a special condition to attend and complete a determined number of days in the Lee County Sheriff's Day Work Program. As Of August 5, 2013, Program participants need to pre-register for the Day Work Program with Lee County Sheriff's Day Work Coordinator **Jeanette Defaira** on **Wednesday or Thursday** at **1p.m. or 2p.m.** for registration and orientation (**tardiness will not be tolerated**) at the Core Facility (concrete block building-lobby area) located at 2501 Ortiz Avenue, Ft. Myers, Florida 33905. **Program participants must bring their Commitment papers which show how many days they are required to do.** At

this time, a photo I.D. badge of the program participant will be issued and a work schedule will be developed. When the participants begin the Day Work Program, they will need to report by **7:00 a.m.** on Detar Lane (3 miles north of the Lee County Ortiz Site). Thereafter, the program participant will be taken out to various locations of work. The defendant's offense may be subject to a statutory minimum mandatory sentence of incarceration. The Lee County Sheriff's Day Work Program should not be imposed as an alternative to that minimum mandatory sentence.

Prior to imposing the Lee County Sheriff's Day Work Program as a condition of probation or as a sanction for a drug court violation, **it is strongly recommended for the trial Judge to first inquire on record as to whether the defendant has any medical or physical limitations that would exclude the defendant from participating in the work program.** Probationers participating in the Sheriff's Day Work Program are limited to offenders serving a County probationary sentence.



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