



**TIM BURKHALTER, SHERIFF**

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There have been many questions asked about the status of Dr. John Cowan (Neurosurgeon) as a Reserve Deputy for the Floyd County Sheriff's Office. The purpose of this statement is to clear up any misconceptions.

Prior to his announcement that he was running for political office, John Cowan was sworn in by the Floyd County Sheriff's Office as a Special Reserve Deputy for attachment to the SWAT Team. His role with SWAT is as a Tactical Emergency Medic (TEM). Our TEM's serve a vital role to the Rome/Floyd SWAT Team as they are highly trained in the medical field in case of injury to one of our SWAT members or a suspect that they have encountered on the scene.

Dr. Garrett Barnes is our lead TEM, he selects medical personnel (all volunteer) who wish to serve and then sends them to the Floyd County Sheriff's Office to swear in. When they are activated, they act as a sworn deputy and have all the duties and powers of a deputy for the duration of the activation.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Tim Burkhalter