



James R. Hawkins, Chief of Police, Garden City, Kansas

James R. Hawkins has a bachelor's degree in Spanish from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and a master's degree in Spanish and Portuguese from The University of Massachusetts. He has studied and lived in Toluca, Mexico and Lisbon, Portugal. Hawkins has been with the Garden City Police Department since October 1983, where he started as a patrol officer and after several promotions (to detective, lieutenant and captain), was appointed to the position of Chief of Police in February 1996.

He graduated from the San Diego County Sheriff's S.W.A.T. Academy, the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar, and served as a public information officer in Hancock County, Mississippi after hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Chief Hawkins sees the Garden City Police Department as one of the finest, most progressive and professional police departments in the country. The department is a community-oriented full-service department whose men and women constantly strive to provide a safe environment for everyone alike.

Through educational endeavors, such as the Citizens Police Academy, drug and gang awareness presentations, and protective and enforcement services such as School Resource Officers, Citizens' Assist Team, SWAT, and 24-hour patrol, the department operates with unimpeachable fairness and openness.

The Garden City Police Department is committed to working closely with the community as a partner in identifying and resolving issues of mutual concern and prides itself as being responsive, helpful and respectful.