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City of Dexter Receives Blue Shield Designation from the Missouri Department of Public Safety

APRIL 24TH 2025 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Today, the City of Dexter 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 Dexter, 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.”

“The City of Dexter is honored to receive the Missouri Blue Shield designation and truly appreciates Governor Kehoe’s recognition of our efforts,” said **Mayor Mark Snider**.

“This designation reflects the hard work and dedication of our highly respected law enforcement personnel, and we look forward to continuing our work with all law enforcement agencies to make our city, county, and state a safer place to live.”

“Dexter’s commitment to public safety is rooted in our strong partnerships with law enforcement at all levels,” said **David Wyman, City Administrator**. “Together, we work to build trust, ensure accountability, and create a safer community for everyone. Joining Governor Kehoe’s Missouri Blue Shield Program reaffirms our pledge to continue these efforts.”

“The Dexter Police Department is incredibly honored to be recognized as part of the Missouri Blue Shield Program,” said **Police Chief Hank Trout**. “It’s a privilege to be part of an initiative that supports law enforcement and acknowledges the dedication of those who serve our communities. This program provides us with opportunities to enhance the training and equipment that are essential to our department’s success. The strong support we receive from our community and local leaders plays a big role in helping us keep our city safe for everyone who lives and works here.”

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 Dexter

The City of Dexter earned a Missouri Blue Shield designation due to its exceptional commitment to public safety. Through strategic investments, strong interagency partnerships, and meaningful public involvement in safety efforts, the community has demonstrated a strong and ongoing commitment to protecting its residents. This

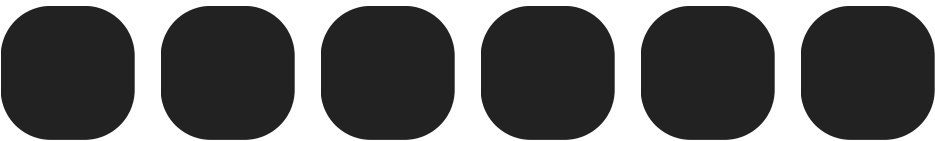
designation affirms the City of Dexter’s effort to create a safer, more secure environment for all who live and work here.

Pictured in the photo above from left to right are City Administrator Mr. Dave Wyman, City Police Chief Mr. Hank Trout, and City of Dexter Mayor Mr. Mark Snider.

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