

Sheriff Rick Davis knows that in the case of a sudden cardiac arrest, (SCA), every second counts, and the sooner that a patient can be assisted by the application of an Automated External Defibrillator, (AED), the greater their chances for survival. It is for this very reason that the Sheriff has ordered AEDs to be included in the standard emergency equipment carried in all Henderson County Sheriff's Patrol cars.

"We have always included AED training along with our mandated CPR training to all of our officers every year, said the Sheriff. It only makes sense that if we are trained to use the devices, we should make every effort to have it available for our officers. When you consider that very late at night or in the early morning hours, when first responders may be dispatched to a scene, we are often close in the area. One of our cars could be several minutes ahead of other responders simply because of proximity to the call. It would be a shame to have the training but lack access to the very device that could save the life of a person in such medical distress."

The Sheriff has made it his goal to have the AED units available in all Henderson County patrol cars. He is paying for the units utilizing money that the department has seized from illicit drug trafficking operations. In so doing, the Sheriff is able to provide these lifesaving units at no additional cost to the taxpayers of Henderson County>

Terry Layne, Director of Henderson County Emergency Medical Services was instrumental in helping the Sheriff determine what equipment would best suit the needs of the Sheriff's Office. "I am glad to assist the Sheriff's Office in purchasing the AED that will be carried in all the patrol cars. When a cardiac arrest occurs, (no breathing/no pulse), it is of the utmost importance to place the AED on the patient in order to determine if the arrhythmia is one that will respond to shock. If so, the quicker the shock can be administered, the better the outcome may be for the patient. The Zoll AEDs that the Sheriff is obtaining is the same model used by fire departments and first responders throughout the country."