

Descendants of Sheriffs & Constables of Colonial & Antebellum America

Application Instructions

Eligibility: A law enforcement officer (also called peace officer), was any [public-sector](#) employee or agent charged with upholding the [peace](#) and empowered to arrest criminals. The following are the eligibility categories for active members who have attained the age of 18 or above and whose lineal ancestors served before 1861 in one of the following categories:

Sheriff, High Sheriff, Under Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff, Constable, High Constable, Lesser Constable, Marshal, Corps of Rangers (in TX), Bailiff, Night Watch, Deputy, Jailer, Gaoler, Conservator of the Peace (not a Judge or Justice), Prison Guard, Detective (not Private), [Police Officer](#) (Boston, New York, Philadelphia, *et al*), [Correctional Officer](#), [Customs Officer](#), [Immigration Officer](#), [Probation Officer](#), [Parole Officer](#), [Auxiliary Officer](#), and all the deputies of the above. All of the above must be non-military.

Fees: Life membership dues will be \$200 for all members. The non-refundable application fee is \$20, for a total of \$220.00. An additional non-refundable Registrar General fee of \$15 should be supplied to the Registrar General below. The non-refundable fee for each supplemental is \$35; twenty dollars to Sheriffs & Constables and \$15.00 for the Registrar General fee.

Application procedure: Upon written acceptance by the applicant to the Registrar General, an application form will be provided (electronic or paper) for completion.

The lineage pages (beginning at page 2 of the application) must be completed following customary procedures. Include full names, birth, death, and marriage information for both individuals in each generation in the claimed lineage. Dates should be written as “04 Sep 1637/8”; do not use numerals for months and do not convert dates from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar. When dealing with Quaker dates, write the date exactly as it is found in the records (*e.g.*, 13th 12 mo. 1657).

Use 2-letter postal abbreviations for names of States (*e. g.*, GA, NY, VA). Counties that appear on proof documentation should be stated, *but not derived after the fact* as county borders change over time.

Remember to provide proper citation to authoritative sources. Published sources should follow the standard Chicago Style Manual:

Author’s name, *Name of Book or Other Published Source* (City, State Published: Name of Publisher, Year), volume number: page numbers.

Example: John Smith, *The Smith Family of Rhode Island* (Providence, RI: Tuttle Printers, 1950), 2:399-401.

Common references can be used: birth, death, and marriage certificates “BC,” “DC,” or “MC,” respectively, birth, death, and marriage records “BR,” “DR,” or “MR,” respectively; and, marriage license “ML.” Their origins are obvious, so no additional description is required. *Please refrain from providing a discussion or description of what is contained in the reference document.* That information is interpreted by the Genealogist General.

For example:

The said 8.	Hester Cunningham	was the child of	Phineas Cunningham
born at:	Hebron, CT	on	24 Jun 1727
died at:	Chadds Ford, PA	on	11 Sep 1777
married on:	30 Jun 1752	to	Joanna Bartlett
born at:	Hebron, CT	on	03 Apr 1730
died at:	Hebron, CT	on	30 Sep 1790

married at:	Hebron, CT	
Proof:	Barbour Coll. – Hebron; Jolene Roberts Mullen. Connecticut Town Meeting Records during the American Revolution, Vol. I. (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2011), p. 439	
The said	Joanna Bartlett	was the child of Joseph Bartlett
	9.	
born at:	Newport, RI	on 18 May 1700
died at:	Hebron, CT	on 12 Dec 1789
married on:	06 Jul 1725	to Rachel Mann
born at:	Little Compton, RI	on 05 Jan 1700/01
died at:	Hebron, CT	on 15 Apr 1731
married at:	Hebron, CT	
Proof:	Barbour Coll. – Hebron; RI VR (Arnold) 2:111; Connecticut Headstone Inscriptions, Charles R. Hale Collection, Hebron, CT, 511-2	

Genealogical Proofs

Acceptable genealogical proofs include birth, death and marriage certificates (or published forms of those records), federal and state population censuses, Social Security applications and death index transcripts, published tombstone transcriptions, photographs of tombstones (with the name and location of cemetery stated), Bible records (must include copyright page), wills, deeds, family histories providing citations to original source materials, and most similar types of documents. Published obituaries may be used only if the date of death is specifically stated and must include the name of the newspaper and the date of publication. **PLEASE NOTE: A COPY OF THE TITLE PAGE FROM ALL PUBLISHED SOURCES IS NECESSARY AND REQUIRED.** ALL PROOFS should be marked with the generation number(s) in **RED** (e. g., **GEN 3**) at the top left of the page. Pertinent names, dates, and locations should be **underlined in red**. All proof documents must be legible and printed on one side only. In submitting your application, put the proof documents in generational order, beginning with Generation 1.

We have attempted to make preparation of our application as easy as possible by allowing applicants, who belong to other lineage societies through their qualifying lineage. If the applicant has a recently approved lineage paper from another recognized hereditary society (with the exception of the Sons of the American Revolution), **it may be used as documentation provided that the lineage paper is “first generation,” i.e. no other lineage society is referenced in the proof documentation area.** The applicant can copy the other society's information to our application without having to send voluminous documentation. However, even if you have previously proven this lineage, it will be necessary for you to **list the proofs you used as though you were proving the lineage for the first time.** **Do not merely refer to the application of the other society as your evidence.**

For example:

If you are using your approved Flagon & Trencher application #714 and the proofs are:

BC for MLB, BC for NFL, ML

Please do not alter the original references but add a reference to the approved application.

BC for MLB; BC for NFL; ML; Flagon & Trencher (F&T) #714, Jane Doe, anc. John Jones, gen. 1-7

Continue to cite the appropriate proofs for each generation referenced in the F&T application.

Before Mailing the Application Form: Walk through generation by generation to validate that the dates, names, and places provided are documented in the proofs provided. Make sure you are able to connect generations. Anything without attestation will slow down the approval process.

Printing Instructions:

1. Please use letter size, 20 lb. Acid Free paper.
2. Print the Application and proofs on **one side only**.

Mailing:

1. Enclose **one** copy of the application with an original signature. (A copy of the approved application will be e-mailed to you.)
2. Enclose your proofs in generational order.
3. Enclose a check for \$220 (or \$20 for a supplemental application) made payable to “Sheriffs and Constables.”
4. Enclose a separate check for \$15 made out to the Registrar General, Karen M Wills.
5. Mail to the Registrar General.

The current Registrar General is:

Karen M Wills

1200 River View Avenue, Apt 108

Stevens Point, WI 54481-5151

Email: wkriver15@gmail.com

DO NOT SEND YOUR APPLICATION BY REGISTERED OR CERTIFIED MAIL, OR VIA ANY MEANS THAT REQUIRES A SIGNATURE.