



**RUSK POLICE DEPARTMENT
IS HIRING POLICE
OFFICERS AT TOP PAY**



OUR POLICE MISSION:

The Rusk Police Department is dedicated to serving our community and safeguarding the lives and property of our citizens



If you have what it takes to become a member of a professionally recognized police agency, Rusk Police Department wants YOU!





THE COMMUNITY



Rusk, Texas is the county seat and second largest city of Cherokee County, with a population of 5,598. The city lies near the geographic center of the county, at the junction of U.S. Highways 69 and 84, State Highway 110, and Farm Roads 241, 343, 752, 768, 1248, 1857, and 2972, and 120 miles southeast of Dallas.

Rusk was established by an act of the Texas legislature on April 11, 1846, which defined the boundaries of Cherokee County and called for the county seat to be named for Gen. Thomas Jefferson Rusk, one of the signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence. The law stipulated that the new county seat be located within three miles of the county's geographical center and named a five-member commission to determine the town's exact site.

The commission originally wanted to locate Rusk at Cook's Fort, the largest settlement in the area near the junction of the Neches-Saline and Fort Houston roads. When James Cook, the owner of the property, refused to sell the land, the commission opted for a 100-acre tract in the James Hundley survey, owned since 1839 by James F. Timmons, who agreed to sell the property, situated three miles east of the Saline Road, for \$600. On April 13, 1847, the land was deeded for a town site. At the time only John Kilgore and his family lived on the site; but within two years most of the families in and around Cook's Fort had moved the new town, and by 1850 Rusk reportedly had 355 residents. A post office was authorized on March 8, 1847, and the town's first church, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, was organized by Rev. J. B. Harris in May 2, 1847.

Like many early Texas towns, Rusk was laid out on a grid pattern based on the Shelbyville plan with a courthouse square in the center. Rusk remains a commercial center for a surrounding agricultural, lumber, and iron ore area. The nearby Texas State Railroad, now operated by The Western Group, attracts numerous tourists to the area.



ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT



Rusk Police Department is an excellent, professionally recognized police agency, one of less than 200 departments state-wide the Texas Police Chiefs Association has designated a Best-Practices Agency. Rusk PD is a full-service, 24/7/365 agency providing patrol, investigations, administrative and other services to our community.

The Rusk Police Department is supported by an annual budget of \$2.3 million dollars for FY 2022. It has a budgeted staff of 12 officers, including the chief of police, three sergeants and 8 police officers, as well as a non-sworn administrative assistant. Specialized divisions include Administration, Patrol Operations, and Investigations.





POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION

The mission of the Rusk Police Department is to provide a safe and secure environment for citizens to enjoy their pursuits by:

Detection and prevention of criminal activity.

Apprehension of criminal offenders.

Control of traffic and prevention of motor vehicle accidents.

Helping to create and maintain a community-wide feeling of security and safety.

POLICE DEPARTMENT CORE VALUES

Integrity: the cornerstone of police work; without which public trust is lost.

Courage: to make the right professional decision.

Accountable: to the community, department, and city government.

Respect: of the whole community, the department, and self.

Ethical: in terms of professional actions and decision-making

ABOUT THE POSITION

Under general supervision of the Chief of Police, and Police Sergeants, to enforce laws, protect life and property, preserve the peace, apprehend criminals, and investigate traffic accidents. Police Sergeant determines deadlines and priorities for this position. Routine course of action to be followed is generally clear-cut and specific in accordance with established Police Department policies; however, incumbent must be able to act quickly in emergencies and make independent decisions. Position requires constant contact with the public in situations that will require the use of tact, diplomacy, and good judgment.



Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Patrols an assigned beat by car or on foot to deter crime and detect violations of law.
- Makes arrests of persons violating laws and ordinances; inspects residential, commercial, and other buildings on assigned beat for indications of criminal activity; responds to emergency calls, routine complaints, and alarm system signals; and takes all necessary and appropriate law enforcement actions.
- Conducts open observation for traffic law violators; directs traffic; writes traffic and parking citations; questions drivers, witnesses, or others in connection with possible violations of the law; takes statements; checks NCIC and TCIC for information on suspects; and accompanies prisoners to jail or court.
- Conducts preliminary investigations at crime scenes prior to arrival of supervisor; testifies in court; writes required reports; maintains files; and answers phones.
- Must treat all persons, the public, other agency personnel, other city personnel, and other department personnel with courtesy and respect at all time.
- Must work harmoniously with other city personnel, internal and external to the department.
- May have the opportunity to test for future promotional opportunities.

Minimum Qualifications

Required Education, Degrees, Certificates, and/or License:

- High School Diploma or GED required. College semester hours are preferred, with a minimum GPA of 2.0.
- Applicant must be TCOLE licensed.

Requirements for employment:

- Must hold a valid Texas Class C Driver's License with a safe driving record (no more than 3 moving violations in the past 36 months).
- No record of DWI, DUI, or license suspension within the past ten years.
- No conviction of any felony.
- No convictions of any Class A or B Misdemeanor in the past ten years.
- No convictions of any illegal drug use.
- No conviction of family violence within the past 10 years; and
- Must not have a dishonorable discharge from the military.



EXPERIENCE, TRAINING, KNOWLEDGE, AND SKILLS

- Must have a good knowledge of criminal laws and local ordinances.
- Skilled in the use and care of firearms, vehicles, and other common police equipment.
- Intermediate computer skills.
- Knowledge of first aid is preferred.
- Must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.



COMPENSATION, INCENTIVE PAY & BENEFITS

The current salary range for Rusk Police Officer is \$51,443 at Step One, to \$58,203 at Step Six.

For Police Sergeant, the current salary range is \$61,123 at Step one, to \$69,155 at Step Six.

STARTING PAY DEPENDS ON PRIOR EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING. LATERAL TRANSFERS ARE AVIALABLE



Potential Incentives include:

\$1,000 sign-on Bonus

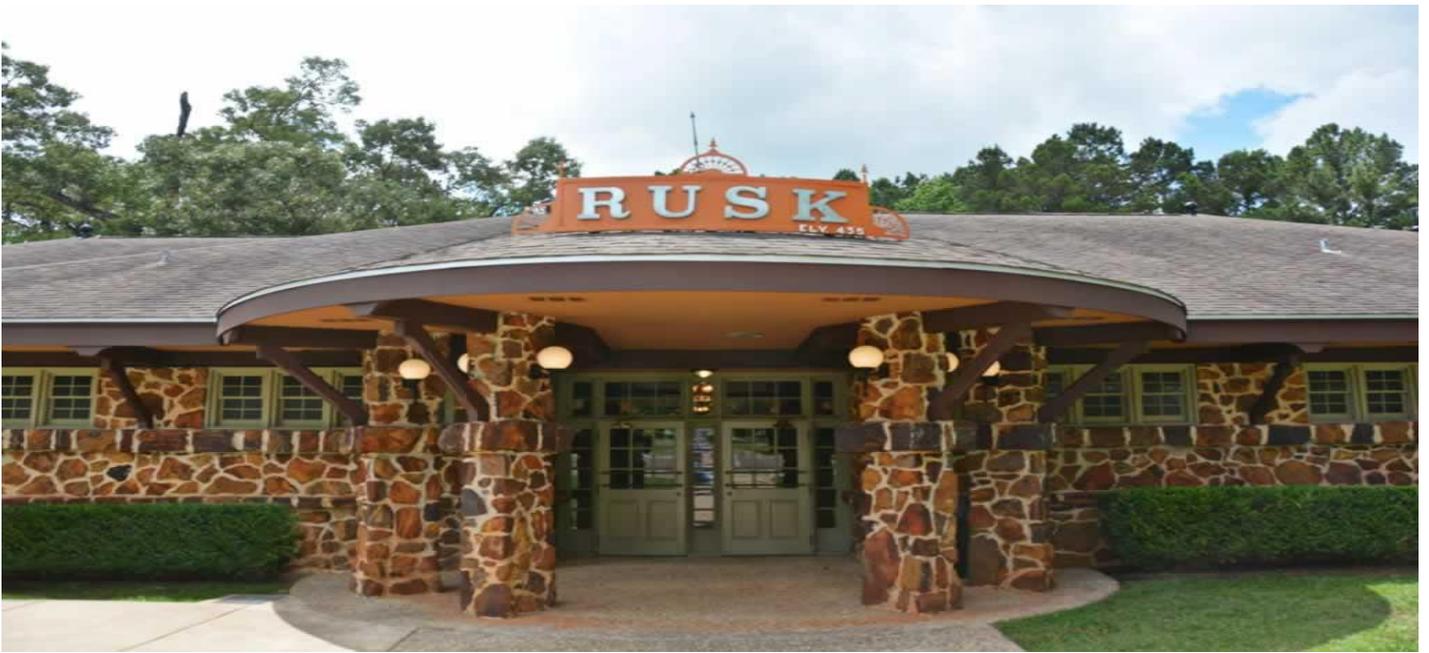
\$1,800 Shift-Differential Pay Annually

\$1,800 City Residency Pay Annually

\$1,200 Language Skills Pay Annually

\$1,200 Certificate Pay Annually

Benefits include TRMS Retirement, Generous vacation, sick time, compensation time, and holidays
Paid health insurance for employees, and available dependent health and dental coverage
Take home vehicle, all clothing, equipment, weapons and protective gear provided



APPLICATION PROCESS

Please apply online at <https://www.rusktx.org>

For more information on this position contact:

Cinda Etheridge, City Secretary
City of Rusk
cetheridge@rusktx.org
903-683-2213

Rick Pippins, Interim Chief of Police
City of Rusk
rpippins@rusktx.org
430-244-9620

The City of Rusk is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity in its workforce. Applicants selected as finalists for this position will be subject to a comprehensive background check.

RESOURCES:

City of Rusk website - www.rusktx.org

City of Rusk Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/cityofrusktexas>

Cherokee County website - <http://www.co.cherokee.tx.us/ips/cms/index.html>