

# MISSOURI'S Community Action Poverty Simulation

## STAFF INSTRUCTIONS

### POLICE OFFICER

#### INCLUDED IN THIS PACKET

- 1 Police Officer Instruction Sheet
- 1 badge
- 1 name tag
- 12 Protective Custody Notices
- 6 Gun Permit Forms
- \$200 (some can be used if you are moved to help anyone with a "hard luck story")
- 1 pen/pencil
- 1 pad of paper
- 1 transparency marker
- 1 Receipt Book
- 1 gun
- Juvenile Hall sign

#### TIME FRAME

This simulation is divided into four 15-minute "weeks" representing one "month" in the life of a low-income family.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

##### 1. You have six tasks:

- Responding to robberies
- Protecting families against illegal eviction
- Watching for and responding to child neglect
- Responding to street crimes
- Issuing gun permits
- Responding to staffers or families who may ask for help protecting their property

2. Keeping order is your responsibility. You may be called on to help as mentioned above. You may be as creative with this role as you wish. You may also hire a deputy if things get busy.

3. To create a "juvenile hall" for children who are neglected, remove chairs from your jail area and set them off to one side. (In most states they would be placed in some kind of foster care, and if you have time you may "find" a family to place the child with for a while, paying them \$40.00 a week).

4. You do not accept EBT cards for payment of gun permit.

5. You will be asked to report on your experiences with the families at the end of the simulation.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

### 1. Robbery

- a. Arrest the suspect(s) and take him/her/them to the police station. Hold them in jail and ask the facilitator to set bail.
- b. Hold suspect in jail until their family pays bail to you. Give them a receipt only if they ask. Release them after a "week" if bail can't be paid.

### 2. Illegal Eviction

- a. If a family has been illegally evicted, they must report this to you.
- b. The family may only return to their property if you go with them. You may or may not choose to do so.
- c. If you take the family to their home, turn their chairs upright to represent legal return of property.

### 3. Child Neglect

- a. You may notice or be told that a child has been left alone. This is child neglect.
- b. Take the child into "custody" and bring the child to "juvenile hall." Give the child a pad of paper and pencil/pen and ask them to do some drawing until you can find the parent(s).
- c. If the parent(s) show up to take the child home, lecture the parent(s), hassle them if you wish, but then you must release the child to the parent.

### 4. Street Crimes

- a. One person is playing a role to conduct illegal activities in the community. His/her behavior is suspicious. Keep a close eye on this person.
- b. Also, watch those teenagers that may band together.

### 5. Gun Permits

- a. Obtain a transportation pass from the individual.
- b. Give him/her the form to complete.
- c. Ask to see their I.D. and then collect \$10 to run a reference check.
- d. Give a receipt only if requested.
- e. Tell them to come back in one week for their permit.
- f. Issue a permit if the applicant returns in a week and there have been no crime reports filed against him/her.