

**RESOLUTION TO DECLARE A GOOD CAUSE EXCEPTION FOR  
HOUSE BILL 3  
ARMED SECURITY OFFICER REQUIREMENT**

**WHEREAS**, Section 37.0814 of the Texas Education Code requires the board of trustees of each school district shall determine the appropriate number of armed security officers for each district campus;

**WHEREAS**, Section 37.0814(a) of the Teas Education Code requires the board to ensure that at least one armed security officer is present during regular school hours at each district campus;

**WHEREAS**, Section 37.0814(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that at least one armed security officer at each campus be a commissioned peace officer, namely a school district peach officer; a school resource officer; or a commissioned peace officer employed as security personnel under Section 37.081 of the Texas Education Code;

**WHEREAS**, Section 37.0814(c) of the Texas Education Code provides that if the board of trustees of a school district is unable to comply with this section, the board may claim a good cause exception if the district's noncompliance is due to the availability of funding or qualified personnel;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District hereby determines that the School District is unable to ensure that at least one armed security officer, as defined by law, is present during regular school hours at each district campus;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees determines that:

The District's noncompliance is due to the lack of available funding. The District has developed a budget for safety and security personnel, due to lack of funding within the State's basic allotment school funding. The 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature generously provided the first ever allocation for armed security personnel funding at a rate of approximately 10% of the pre-existing cost and expenditures associated with the current staffing. Therefore, the District is implementing a plan to phase in the requirement of placing at least one school district peace officer, school resource officer, or a commissioned peace officer at each campus.

And

The District's noncompliance is due to a lack of available qualified personnel. The employment of peace officers is a tedious process, requiring extensive background checks and validation of required credentialing associated with TCOLE. Historically, the hiring process requires 60-90 days for this intensive vetting process. There is an apparent shortage of applicants entering the field of public education law enforcement resulting in some vacancies.

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees, having claimed a good cause exception, will develop and document an alternative standard with which the district is able to comply, in accordance with Sections 37.0814(d) and (e) of the Texas Education Code.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ (date) day of \_\_\_\_\_ (month), \_\_\_\_\_ (year), by the Board of Trustees.

Presiding officer's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Police/Security Plan

The Goose Creek CISD Police Department currently has 20 full time Police Officers serving the district and 1 part time Police Officer. The district also currently has 13 Armed Security Officers and 16 Unarmed Security Officers. The 21 Police Officers are assigned to 17 campuses. The Armed Security Officers are assigned to an additional 11 campuses. 2 Unarmed Security Officers are assigned to campuses by themselves and 15 are assigned to campuses with either Police Officers or Armed Security Officers. The campuses without a Police Officer or Armed Security Officer are covered by the Police and Security supervisors and Police Officers from nearby campuses on a random patrol basis. We will continue to actively monitor all campuses to ensure that we are consistently meeting the needs of the district from a safety and security standpoint.

Section 37.0814(a) of the Texas Education Code requires the board to ensure that at least one armed Peace Officer is present during regular school hours at each district campus. Due to this being an unfunded mandate, Goose Creek CISD will continue to phase in a structure to address this requirement. This includes applying one or more of the following strategies:

- Continue to recruit and hire Police Officers to meet this requirement for all campuses.
- Continue to recruit and hire Level 3 Security Officers to cover campuses that do not have an assigned Police Officer.
- Explore the possibility of implementing a Guardian program where selected employees are authorized and trained to carry a firearm on school property.
- During this transition, ensure Police Officers continue to perform random patrol of campuses without a Police Officer or Armed Security Officer on a regular basis.