

Application for Macomb sheriff job to be online, Corrections Deputies endorse Dave Willis for sheriff

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Macomb County residents interested in the sheriff's appointment will be able to apply online for the position starting Dec. 1.

Applications will be accepted until the close of business Dec. 10 at www.macombcountymi.gov.

On Dec. 15, the trio of county officials designated to appoint the next sheriff will meet to decide the public interview process and appointment date.

The trio — Chief Probate Judge Mark Switalski, Prosecutor Eric Smith and Clerk/Register of Deeds Carmella Sabaugh — met for the first time today to establish the process to appoint a new sheriff because Sheriff Mark Hackel plans to retire Dec. 31 to become the county's first executive Jan. 1. Hackel, a Democrat, was elected as executive Nov. 2.

Switalski, Smith and Sabaugh have until Wednesday to submit questions that they want to add to the online application. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, Macomb County residents, registered to vote and 18 years old, said George Brumbaugh, the county's corporation counsel.

The sheriff's term expires in 2012.

Switalski, Smith and Sabaugh said they were interested in having applicants — probably the finalists depending on the number of applicants — give a public presentation and answer any questions they have.

Sheriff's Capt. Tony Wickersham, Hackel's chief of staff, and Sheriff's Sgt. David Willis attended the sheriff appointment committee meeting today.

Both said they will apply for the appointment and plan to run for sheriff in the next election.

Willis already has filed paperwork for the election. Brian Schrier, president of the Macomb County Deputy Sheriff's Association, which represents the county jail's corrections deputies, told the committee that the union approved a motion endorsing Willis for the appointment.