

Unit Commissioner Responsibilities

Unit commissioners go about their duties in many ways. Their methods of service vary from telephone contacts to group meetings, from "hit-and-run" visits to planned personal conferences. All are important avenues that lead to the fulfillment of their mission, but the main "freeway" to successful service is the personal conference.

Much has been written and said about the job of unit commissioners, and no list can encompass all the tasks they may be called to perform. The following services, however, are top priority:

1. Maintain a close liaison with the chartered organization of the units they serve. This requires a working relationship with the chartered organization representative to strengthen Scouting's chartered organization concept.
2. Work to assure effective and active unit committees.
3. Facilitate the on-time annual charter renewal of all assigned units.
4. Help select and recruit unit leaders. Though the actual appointment is approved by the chartered organization, with help and action on the part of the chartered organization representative and the unit committee, the unit commissioner plays a key role in the process, making certain that proper techniques are used to locate and enlist the best possible leaders.

Because unit leaders are the key people through which Scouting objectives are carried out, commissioners must recognize the important qualities that make up successful unit leaders. Simply said, a good unit leader is a person of quality, high moral standards, dedication, and enthusiasm, a person who is well informed and who understands and puts into action the objectives of Scouting.

The process by which such a person is selected and the care with which we help that person be successful are unquestionably the most important responsibilities of the commissioner.

5. See that unit leadership gets adequate training.
6. Cultivate and maintain the best possible ongoing relationship with the unit leader.