



High Sheriff of the West Midlands 2024/25

Mr Douglas Wright MBE DL

Event & Engagement Protocols

The High Sheriff assumes a similar status to that of the Lord-Lieutenant (or a deputy lieutenant acting as Lord-Lieutenant) as His Majesty the King's second most senior personal representative in the County.

The High Sheriff gives precedence to Lord Mayors and Mayors at their own civic functions. When in attendance upon High Court Judges at the Crown Court, the High Sheriff has precedence.

The Lord-Lieutenant and the High Sheriff are both appointed by, and are representatives of, the Sovereign in the county. The Lord-Lieutenant is responsible for civil and civic matters, whilst the High Sheriff is responsible for law and order, i.e. for keeping the King's Peace.

As a representative of the Sovereign, the High Sheriff should be received at any event with the same degree of etiquette and protocol as a member of the Royal family when the High Sheriff is attending in an official capacity in their own county.

The High Sheriff takes precedence over all others, except the Lord-Lieutenant or a hosting Lord Mayor/Mayor, and is the last to arrive at an engagement (or second last before the Lord-Lieutenant if present).

The High Sheriff needs to be greeted formally and is referred to as ‘High Sheriff’. In speeches, he, or she is acknowledged first (or second after the Lord-Lieutenant if present). After initial introductions the salutation of ‘Mr Wright’ is also appropriate.

At the end of the event the High Sheriff is the first person to depart
(or second after the Lord-Lieutenant if present).

Seating Arrangements

The High Sheriff, and Consort if attending, should always be seated at the principal table, along with the nominated event host.

How do I address a High Sheriff?

Written: Mr Doug Wright MBE DL, High Sheriff of the County of West Midlands

Salutation: Dear High Sheriff

In a Speech: In the preamble the High Sheriff should be referred to as High Sheriff
e.g. a speech might begin, “High Sheriff, Ladies and Gentlemen...”.

Conversation: On formal occasions initially ‘High Sheriff’, followed by ‘Mr Wright’

Post Event

A short paragraph is required from yourselves on the event, and how the High Sheriff has supported your event in anyway, along with any photographs of the event you have taken.

Please note: All photographs sent across have the respective organisations necessary approvals and consents to share them across all High Sheriff social media platforms.

Office of the High Sheriff of West Midlands

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Clerk to the High Sheriff: Kayleigh Humphries